

Title: Urbana stories #3 – Beautiful Reassurance for Student Preparing for Global Missions

January 30, 2023

Greetings all,

Here's another story from one of our Immanuel Approach volunteers at Urbana:

"A student said that she had committed to serve Jesus, preparing for global missions and being in other cultures. She said that she was counting the cost. There was some agitation about that. What bubbled up was that she was very fearful of the costs she might have to "pay" to follow Jesus, and the enemy was taunting her with the option of taking her own life if the cost to follow Jesus became too much for her to handle. She passed the suicide vetting questions and did not need referral to the psychiatric intervention team, so we moved to appreciation.

A positive memory came to mind of her favorite food, chicken fingers and fries. She could see it and smell it and she was ordering it and about to pay for it. As she was about to pay for it, she invited Jesus to reveal where He was at the moment.

Jesus became visible with her and then He gently stepped in front of her at the cash register to cover the cost of the food. She reported that He used a silver metal card to pay, commenting that it was the kind of card only used by the "big guys," and never used for or by her, yet Jesus chose to use it for her. That was meaningful to her, and she felt valued and "worthy" since he used the silver card for her.

Jesus then told her that for any cost that arose for following Him, He would be there with her. He then told her that she would always have her special food, "chicken fingers and fries," wherever she served Him, and she knew that He meant it symbolically and that it meant that He would be with her and provide for her in any and every country and culture she served.

Her fear of the cost of serving Jesus lifted, and she was calmed and assured by His presence with her, and His peace settled into her. She then realized that suicide does not need to be a back door option, as Jesus understands and will be with her and will cover costs and provide.

She then entered into a moment of enjoying a meal with Jesus, eating chicken fingers and fries together. She said that, going forward, chicken fingers and fries will be her reminder of Him and His presence and His promise to her.

She was smiling and in peace, with gratitude, as she left."

Blessings,

Dr. Lehman/Karl

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