BCM: Growing Spiritually Through Hands-on Missions

While Baptist Collegiate Ministries (BCM) is a ministry of the BGAV, it also is an avenue through which students themselves can participate in missions. Every year, several BCMs send teams of students to participate in missions opportunities within the Commonwealth, the United States, and internationally. Serving Christ together through missions gives students a chance to develop in their own faith and maturity while strengthening their relationships with other BCM students. In many cases, students realize or solidify their calling to missions or other career paths while they are allowing God to use them during mission trips like these:

• During spring break this year, Old Dominion University's BCM sent a group of 15 students to New York City. Some of the students had been involved in BCM for years, while others had just begun attending. The team worked together at the Bowery Mission, serving people who were homeless and hurting. According to collegiate minister Scott Anderson, God truly moved in the hearts of the students as they served others, led worship, and formed relationships. Since they returned from the trip, their BCM has come alive with a community and energy it didn't have before they went.

• Brian Clabough, James Madison University BCM associate, took a team of 7 students to Haiti earlier this year to serve at the Source of Light Center, an orphanage and school in the Delmas 19 community of Port-au-Prince. JMU BCM students painted parts of the orphanage and spent most of their time loving on the children there through play and worship.
• **Longwood University**'s BCM also sent a team to Haiti’s Source of Light Center, and the 17 students who served there rebuilt a house for a family of 14 who lost their home in the earthquake. They too worked with the children at the orphanage and returned home having experienced God’s presence in a way they hadn’t before. They even have plans to return!

Consider ways you and your church might become involved in supporting a BCM missions team as they answer God’s call to serve. You can be a part of how God is changing lives through BCM!

For more information about how you and your church can be involved in Virginia Baptist Collegiate Ministries, contact:
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