

Monologue #1

I remember Miss Jeanne telling us that the Lord was going to do something great in this youth group. It sounded good, but it sounded too good to be true. This room, being filled with people, so many people that we would have to change rooms, people praying, accepting God into their lives amazing teens coming together to change the world. Man, God, I couldn't believe it a year ago...but now, one year later, it's happening all around me. And you know the most amazing thing about it all? Is that the past 12 months have been the greatest times of my life. Fun Wednesday nights, hanging out with my friends, going to retreats, and that silly football tournament they call the Pumpkin Bowl. It was so great...you know, I used to think that Christian thing was so boring, but not anymore. Who knew that a youth group could change in just 12 months? And the thing about it is, I was there that very first day when it all happened, just one year ago.

Monologue #2

Do you remember when things first started changing, Jesus? I walked into the room and the walls were painted black. They had up some new lights and a couple of screens, and even though I didn't say anything to anyone else, I thought to myself, they're really trying to make it look better. They had a new band and Sam could play his sax. Then some weeks passed and we started thinking of new ways to make it better. We hung some huge posters and started playing some fun new videos and even got chances to invite our friends to Wednesday night service. God, it's only been a year, but so many things have changed. I guess the black walls weren't as important as the black junk that was in many people's hearts. Lord, thank You for making these black walls and making the hearts of many people really white.

Monologue #3

Wow, God. It's crazy to think that 12 months ago this all started. I mean, I was asked to be a leader around here and I thought, are you kidding me? I go to college, I've got a good job, I've got a lot of money, why would I want to be a leader in a youth group. I don't know, just the thought of hanging out with a whole bunch of students all the time just seemed like a waste. But I'll tell you what, I'll never forget the moment that all changed. When Jeanne had the alter call and I saw Ben come forward. I ran up and I put my arm on his shoulder. I got to pray with him and he accepted You, Lord, as his savior. That night not only changed his life, but my life forever. I mean, from there on out we went and played ball together, grabbed some pizza you know, we just had a great relationship.

And Lord, he even wrote me this card for Christmas and every time I look at this, it blows me away. "Thanks Matt, for being there for me this past year. If you weren't, I probably wouldn't know God now. I don't know what Jesus looked like when He walked on this earth, but He must have had a heart pretty much like yours. Thanks for letting me know what He's really like. When I make it to Heaven, it's gonna be because I had a friend like you. Merry Christmas, pal, have a great 20_ _."

I read that God and every time it hits me. Who am I to deserve something like that? Who would have thought a year from now, things would have changed so much? Thanks for letting me be a part of this, God.

Monologue #4

God, tell me I'm not seeing things. Tell me that the person I see up there is who I think it is. Lord, You know, he's my best friend. We've been through everything together and I know he never mentioned anything like this to me, but he seemed interested I could tell. He came to our small groups and he talked to our youth leaders. I heard him asking a few questions about God one time, but he never mentioned anything to me. I guess that's how it is, even though I never saw it, You did and now he is giving his life to You. Thank You, God for giving us miracles we never deserved.

Monologue #5

They weren't going to excite me about these changes. No way. I didn't want anything to change. I wanted everything the way it was before. I didn't want a big youth service, I liked the small group service we had before. All the talk about how God is doing great stuff, didn't impress me. I've heard it all before and they weren't going to change me. All I wanted to do is sit in the back with all my friends and watch the floor show on Wednesday nights. They weren't going to con me into being a part of things...no way.

There's only one problem...it's been a year now, only 12 months, and Jesus, if they could only look into my heart, they'd know that I had some regrets. Maybe I shouldn't have been the tough guy, maybe I should have given them a chance. Maybe I should have jumped in a year ago when it all started. But it's too late now and I feel like an idiot. Lonely and wishing I could do this past year all over again. And now it's gone, God. I refused to jump in a year ago and guess what? It's too late to do it all over again.



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P.O. Box 450309
Atlanta, GA 31145
404-284-8262

www.youthleaderscoach.com