

# M516

Ministry.Missions.Movement.

## REFOCUSING ON CHRIST

*Spring 2021 · From Matt Lister*

2020 brought a lot of new challenges to student ministry, many of which are still present nearly a year later. Students were disconnected from community (even more than before), challenged to teach themselves through online learning, and could no longer attend or participate in many of the things they enjoyed including church.

Our spring D-Now, Cancelled.  
Our 2 Summer Camps, cancelled.  
Our fall mission trip plans, postponed.



In the midst of all the chaos and uncertainty, we had lost a focus on the Author and Perfecter of our faith that should have been the anchor of hope and peace in this crazy season.



So when we finally got the green light to gather again I brought in Ryan Young to lead what we called Focus Retreat in Southwest Ohio! This retreat was held at a campground called Camp Chautauqua in Miamisburg, Ohio. We were hoping for great things with it being the first time students got to gather again for something meaningful. And man did God show up big!

Students from 3 different churches were challenged through sound preaching and a passionate plea to turn to Christ.

In total 37 of 80 students made a decision to either accept Christ as Savior, respond to a call to ministry, or rededicate their life to the one true King Jesus. This is an impact that has carried on for months now as students continue to be Focused on Christ and being the light during the trying times.



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M516, Inc c/o P K & Co, PLLC  
P O Box 1728 Elk City, Ok 73648

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Bryson Jackson, student pastor at First Grace Vandalia, who brought several students to join us had this to say as he reflected on the event.

"Ryan really brought the fire to our students this past fall with an engaging message straight from the Word directly applied to their life. We were thoroughly blessed and cannot wait to partner again sometime soon. My students still say 'look at me' all the time; he was very memorable and engaging."

Along with a passionate heart in preaching the Word, Ryan shows great care and love towards his fellow brothers & sisters in the trenches. After a busy weekend of preaching he did not hesitate to jump at the opportunity to pour into my adult leaders on a Sunday evening to encourage them to continue to fight the good fight and lead our students well as we were about to reopen small groups on campus.

One of my adult leaders said, "I've continued to dwell on the perspective Ryan shared with us to try and be more intentional with my small group."

Ryan has become a great friend over the two times we've used him to speak, and he continues to check in with me personally, and my ministry as someone who simply genuinely cares for student ministers and the kids we get to reach.

-- In the grace and love of Christ,  
Matt Lister  
First Baptist Church Kettering  
Student Pastor



We are excited to announce that we are now set up to receive online contributions. There are several ways to support M516, and one of those is through financial donations. We couldn't do what we do without financial supporters!

If you would like to help out in this way please check out the giving options at [the516movement.com/donate](https://the516movement.com/donate) or scanning the QR Code below. Thanks in advance for considering to partner with M516 in this way!  
All glory to Christ!

In Him,  
The Young Family

