

M I S S I O N R E P O R T

The 5 Friend Challenge, Overtime: Exposed and the Overtime After Party



The 5th Annual Overtime

Prepared by: Tom Miyashiro, Executive Director of f2fmi

The 5 Friend Challenge -- September 18, 2009

Overtime: Exposed -- October 9-10, 2009

Overtime After Party -- November 6, 2009

Key Scripture:

***“But everything exposed by the light becomes visible,
for it is light that makes everything visible.”***

–Ephesians 4:12

Growing Stronger, Growing Together

The Executive Committee

The planning and execution of this year's events was orchestrated by:

SE CT Youth Leaders Network Leaders - Paul Fuller of Grace Fellowship EFC, Gary Campbell Jr. of Groton Bible Chapel, Jim Smith of Pleasant Valley Community of Prayer and Praise and Larry Grundy of Groton Heights Baptist Church.

Next Generation Alliance - A collaborative effort from Tom Miyashiro of f2fmi, Justin Kendrick of Holyfire Ministries and Out of Hiding, Mike Foster of Real Ministries, Brad Butcher of Passion 4 People International and Paul Ramey.

Event Staff & Corporate Sponsors

Over 50 individuals volunteered time, energy and resources throughout the fall to make Overtime a huge success. They monitored games, served food, set things up and broke them down, cleaned, and worked safety. There were also event sponsors that made a huge impact. A major contributor in making the event a success was **The Cecil B. Day Foundation that granted \$8,000** (the community matched \$3,000 of it). Other sponsors included: Frito/Lay with chips, Pepsi Cola with drinks, et. al.



Kids got their share of junk food



Sumo suits are Overtime favorites



Students brave the rock wall

Church Participation

This year, 18 different churches from our community participated in Overtime. We also saw several ministry partners attend and check out what all the noise was all about at the main event. The word continues to spread that Overtime is a well-produced and safe event for teens. **570 stayed with us all night** and there were **600 at the main event** at Pleasant Valley Community of Prayer and Praise.

A Calendar of Events

Overtime was more than just one event this year. In the early months of 2009, key youth leaders gathered together to seek the Lord and plan about how this year's event would unfold. Excitement began to build as leaders realized that Overtime would be more than just one event, but a series of strategically designed moments of impact culminating to life-changing decisions from teenagers throughout our community.

1. Soul Bowl 2009

This past spring, f2fmi initiated an effort to help teenagers develop a sense of ownership for their events. Soul Bowl was designed to give teens an opportunity to raise money for their events and to generate some excitement for Overtime before summer vacation. Scottish rockers, *Superhero* joined us at Pleasant Valley Community of Prayer & Praise in an Overtime '08 reunion performance. Together, the **teens raised \$425** toward Overtime this fall.

2. The 5 Friend Challenge - September 18th @ Groton Bible Chapel

This September, **97** gathered at Groton Bible Chapel comprised of **56 students** and **41 adult leaders**. The 5 Friend Challenge was issued publicly and students were offered the opportunity to come forward and lead prayer, share words of encouragement and even testimonies of what God was doing in their lives. The Andy Needham Band supported the event with worship and then local youth leaders took turns casting vision for Overtime this fall.



Unveiling the Theme: *Exposed*

At 5FC, we shared with the teens that Overtime '09 would be more than an event. This year, we were promoting a message. The **EXPOSED** theme was developed by Gary Campbell, Youth Director at Groton Bible Chapel and he explained the Scriptural reasons for choosing this theme.

Our theme has two tiers: the first, a very practical element; the second, a spiritual application of the first. They are both illustrated in a piece of art developed by Axiomwear. The first application is **social justice**. Nathanael J. Bass, creator of Axiomwear, fused together a powerful image with the face of a child with the words of one who is trafficked dangling from her hair. Abandoned, neglected and abused are just a few descriptors that hang from her head. Truthfully, the estimated 1.2 million children who are trafficked every year are as vast and faceless as the left side of the girl's face in this design. How



can we help children we don't see and are only known by these names that they wear like a bad hat?

The second application of this imagery has to do with our 5 Friend Challenge. We encouraged them to **reach their friends by exposing them to a relationship with Jesus**. In the same way that those who are being trafficked are living in darkness, so are our friends who don't know Christ. By inviting their friends to Overtime, they made a stand for justice as well as inviting them to get to know the God who inspired them to make a difference.

Featured Cause: Love 146

Love 146 is an organization dedicated to the abolition of the child sex-trafficking industry. They focus on two areas: raising awareness and aftercare through safe house projects. This year, we supported their cause by giving them sales of buttons, posters and this special t-shirt designed to talk about their cause and commemorate this year's fifth annual event. Through these sales, **we were able to raise \$224.07** to aid Love 146 in their most worthy cause.

3. Overtime: Exposed Main Event - Oct. 9-10, 2009 @ Pleasant Valley Community of Prayer & Praise

This year's Overtime proved to be the largest to date – spanning twelve hours of activities, food and a main event that saw 600 gather to draw closer to Christ. Activities for this year included: open gym at Avery Point with the option of swimming, monster mini-golf, bowling, skating and a carnival-style opening activity with inflatables, food, a bonfire, rock wall and video game house.

The main event took place at Pleasant Valley Community of Prayer & Praise on October 9th. Out of Hiding and the Paul Ramey Band led an intense time of worship.

Nate Parks from Camp Berea delivered a challenging message resulting in **63 decisions for Christ; 7 of these were first time commitments!**



Kyle, a volunteer worker had this to say: "That was an awesome OVERTIME. I could totally feel GOD in that building! On a personal note there were a few kids I'm very close to that had been so close to giving their lives to God, and they did that night, including

my cousin. It was such a POWERFUL night even for me as crew. Thanks for all the work and time you put into it..."

4. Overtime After Party



The After Party was the culmination of a year's worth of work and a new game plan of sharing the responsibility of **follow-up** amongst regional leaders. There was food, games, music and gifts. It was the first time f2fmi made a strategic effort to aid in the follow up of teenagers with youth leaders from our region. Paul Ramey joined us again for worship, Bobby Bishop exhorted teens through his music and Mike Foster facilitated the evening and the follow-up discussion. Brad Butcher could not come

because of a family issue, but gave us his follow up manual to reproduce for the event. He also invested several hours training Mike to fill in for him.

37 teens and 13 leaders from area churches attended. **Among them were 2 first time decisions and 7 commitments from Overtime 09: Exposed.** We celebrated together, heard stories from Overtime and then students were led in a next-steps discussion about how to grow in their faith. There were so many positive aspects to the evening and what's more exciting is this is just the beginning. The After Party was **sponsored by the Cecil B. Day Foundation** who awarded f2fmi with a \$5,000 specifically to make the After Party a success.

The Fruit of Working in Partnership

The Medal of Boldness

At f2fmi's annual banquet this fall, a student was awarded with a medal of boldness. The region voted on which teen did the best job recruiting their friends after taking The 5 Friend Challenge. Brianna Mathiowetz is a 15 year old teen from Calvary Chapel who worked hard at inviting her friends to Overtime. Although she is naturally shy, she was able to get three friends to come to Overtime with her. **Holyfire Ministries sponsored the award** and she was presented with it before 165 people at the dinner and then again before her youth group in front of her peers.

A Youth Pastor's Experience

For the past 5 years, Overtime has been one of the key events of our ministry year. Previously, we had gone to a different all-night event in the fall, but it was failing to meet all of our needs. When the opportunity to do an all-night event in our own community with other local churches, and structure it in a way that would better meet our needs, I was all over it. It has been that and more. As a youth pastor, it provides a chance at the beginning of the school year to get my kids excited about reaching their friends for Christ. And I think that's an opportunity my kids are excited about as well. While it may be hard for a teen to start a spiritual discussion, it's easy to invite a friend to stay up all night, catch a cool band, and go bowling. And the speaker always gives plenty of points to start a conversation out of over the course of the rest of the night. Overtime has become more valuable to us than I could have ever imagined!

-Paul Fuller

Youth Pastor

Grace Fellowship Evangelical Free Church

North Stonington, CT

TJ's Testimony as told by Gary Campbell Jr.

It was a thrill to meet, talk, and pray with **TJ Riegle** at Overtime 2009. He was flanked by two friends, Chelsea and Josh of Grasso Tech and Fitch High School respectively. He had tears in his eyes as we discussed why he **had come forward at the invitation** and I asked him if he understood the decision he was contemplating. He said that he did. When I asked him why **he wanted to give his life to Jesus**, and accept what He had done for TJ on the cross, he simply said, "**because my life has no meaning...**" We discussed the sinful nature of all men, and of TJ specifically, and he reiterated through tears that he wanted forgiveness - then we prayed together and TJ received the Lord Jesus Christ as his Savior. TJ has since come consistently to youth group every week and has plugged into a larger group of Christian kids including Chelsea and Josh. Soon, another friend from Grasso, Sean stepped in and has become a spiritual older brother for him.

At the Overtime After-party TJ had Josh, Chelsea, and Sean close by his side, and while it's clear he has so much to learn, he is excited to grow. In the weeks after the event TJ has continued to come out, and is beginning to share some of his story and his struggles, and so begins the act - the relationship, we call discipleship, as we take him to scripture and show him how Jesus' love for him extends beyond, but is always anchored within the old rugged cross.

Next week, TJ and I are planning to go methodically through the resources put forth by Passion For People at the Overtime After-Party, and then come up with a plan for his newfound growth as a babe in Christ. TJ's young faith needs to be nurtured, invested in, and mostly prayed for. **Thank you Day Foundation for making this possible.**

Let's rejoice together in this tangible fruit of the unity of God's people in our region! The Holy Spirit has used the [Southeastern Connecticut Youth Leaders] Network, Faith 2 Faith Ministries, and all of the individuals passionate about seeing the Gospel of Jesus Christ penetrate the youth culture of our community, and to Him be the Glory!

Financials for the Campaign

EVENT	PROJECTED	ACTUAL
The 5 Friend Challenge	\$1,800	\$1,690.75
Overtime: Exposed	\$27,625	\$25,684.59
After Party (3709.44)	\$5,040	\$2,308.39
Total Expenses	\$34,465	\$29,683.73

INCOME SOURCE	PROJECTED	ACTUAL
Ticket Sales	\$18,875	\$14,150
Scholarships	\$5,000	\$3,000
Gifts	\$5,000	\$4,072.27
Follow Up Grant	\$5,000	\$5,000
Bank	\$590	\$590
Vendors	\$0	\$300
Gifts in-kind (\$1,401.05)	\$0	\$0
Total Income	\$34,465	\$27,112.27
Total Expenses		-\$29,683.73
		-\$2,571.46



Faith 2 Faith Ministries International
 PO Box 38
 Montville, CT 06353



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Thanks For Your Partnership!

December 28, 2009

Dear Friends,

Thank you for making *Overtime: Exposed* an awesome success! **Through your gifts and prayers, we shared the gospel with 600 people;** resulting in 63 decisions; with 7 being for the very first time.

I am so grateful that you have partnered with us for our first event to make it such a worthwhile endeavor! Once again, thank you for your generosity and support!

Better Together,

Tom Miyashiro
 Evangelist & Founder
 Faith 2 Faith Ministries International

Contact Information:

Faith 2 Faith Ministries International
 P.O. Box 38
 Montville, CT 06353
 USA

860-848-7400 ext. 3 (office)
 860-848-2899 (fax)
info@f2fmi.org



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