



Selfie of Christ = Church Lunch Moms!

### Catching up with The Gate

ACCESS joins YoungLife ,church youth groups and Gate programming in providing spiritual opportunities for youth 5 days a week. ACCESS, a Gate ministry, meets each Thursday from 6-8 at First Baptist Church. All 7th-12th graders are welcome!

Check out our new Gate website at [thegateyouth.org](http://thegateyouth.org). On line giving is now an option.

Like us on Facebook at Thursdays @The Gate or The Gate Youth Association.

The Gate . . . a place for teens to be known as individuals, to be encouraged to grow and learn and to encounter Christ's love.

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# Inside THE GATE

The Gate Youth Association

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## WHAT PICTURE OF CHRIST ARE YOU POSTING TO THE WORLD?



The following excerpts were taken from a Church Lunch speech delivered by Jen Mason, mom, school board member, social worker and community volunteer... It was at a basketball game a few weeks ago when I saw two girls snap about a dozen selfie pictures of themselves probably prepared for upload to their Facebook, Instagram, or Twitter account when a question struck me; What if God took selfies? Or would He? The definition of a selfie is a picture taken by the photographer of him or herself... Truth is, we are, you are, the image of God on earth. You are Jesus' hands and feet to the world. More than any picture from the Bible, image in a gallery, or statue in a museum, it is our lives that reflect the face of God in our world, in our town, in our schools, in our group of friends. WE are His representation... "His selfie"... WE are ambassadors of Christ, we are the face of Jesus, the face of Christianity to the world, So what would be the selfies taken by Jesus?

They are a picture of a group of women, who for over 20 years provide lunch once a week for high school students; it is the snap shot of the teenager beside me at the grocery store bagging the groceries of a mom with a crying baby; it is a panorama of the Panther Pit the night it is awash with pink in support of a beloved community member, friend, and teacher who is fighting a battle with an illness.. These are the selfies of Christ. When we go out into the world, into our community, or even take



part in the lives of our individual families, we are the face of God to others around us. Often we are the only image of Christ someone may see in their lives. My

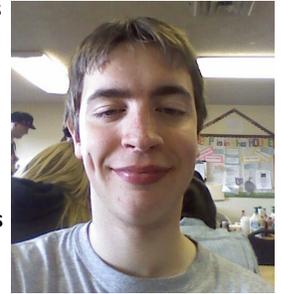
questions for you are, what picture are you posting of Christ to the world? What is the #hashtag on your life? Is it all about #you? Is it all about #me? Or are you choosing to put aside your picture, your image, and choosing to be to your community, to your friend group, to your family, the face and image of God? **What is the selfie of God you post?**



## #SELFIES OF CHRIST: SNAPPED AT THE GATE

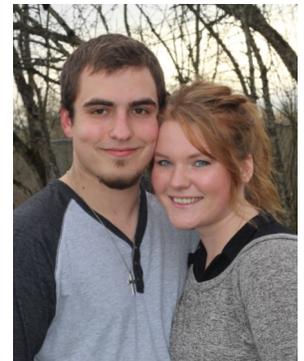


#Tuesday Lunch student Mo putting on a prom for special needs Dallas and Central high school students. #Daniel, a CHS senior, mentored by a Gate volunteer, supplying a school in Mexico with donated supplies. #Charlotte, local business woman, surprising students with warm apple cake on Thursdays when her schedule permits. #Kramer, another Tuesday Lunch attender, raising over \$500 for Helping Hands, a food and clothing closet in Monmouth. #Nine Church Lunch students raising over \$10,000 to support Lymphoma Research through Mr. and Mrs. Central. #Karen, a local pastor and Judi, a 4-H leader, blessing students at different times by teaching the gift of giving to others. #Thirty four pastors, teachers and community leaders sharing inspirational messages with an average of 130 students at church lunch each Tuesday this year. #Andrew, a church lunch student, hosting an art show during the Christmas concert at the CHS Auditorium.



## SELFIE OF CHRIST: GIVING BACK

Last October on a warm afternoon a young man named Travis stopped by Thursdays @ The Gate to say thank you. After spending the last 2 years searching for relevance in his life, Travis reconnected with God and was compelled to come by The Gate to thank the leadership for their involvement in his life. Since then, Travis and his girlfriend, Megan, have been regular volunteers on Thursdays, spending time building positive relationships with teens. Volunteers like Travis and Megan, who recognize the value of mentor/student relationships assist The Gate in realizing our vision of a community where future generations experience, follow and serve Christ.



## SELFIE OF CHRIST: HUMBLE ORGANIZER



Joe Johnson and his wife, Vicky, will exercise their servants' hearts again this **August 9<sup>th</sup>** as they, along with a host of volunteers and tournament sponsors, will facilitate our 9<sup>th</sup> annual golf tournament. Mark your calendars, get your teams together, and gather at **Diamond Woods Golf Course at 1PM on Saturday, 8/9/14** for a shotgun start. A Traeger grill will be raffled off and as always there will be lots of prizes and delicious food... all for a great cause. . .providing our youth with academic, social, recreational and spiritual activities where they are known, encouraged and experience the love of God.

## POSSIBILITIES FOR YOUR SELFIE OF CHRIST ....THOUGHTS FROM THE PRESIDENT

As you are well aware, volunteers are the life blood of non-profit organizations. The Gate is no different. We are thankful that many of you share our vision of reaching the teens of Monmouth and Independence with the love of Jesus Christ as well as providing them with a safe place where they are known, encouraged and experience God's love. Would you please



consider taking steps to fulfill your desires by sharing your resources through participating in a Gate ministry, committee or event.

Ponder this...

Does your selfie of Christ portray the image of ... a mentor , a grant writer, a newsletter editor, a special events coordinator, a key communicator, a sharer of your talent or profession, a cook, a capital campaign committee member, a website administrator. . . ? If so, call or text Ben Bobeda at 503-551-3589 or email us at [info@thegateyouth.org](mailto:info@thegateyouth.org).

*Ben Bobeda*