



FREEDOM HOOPS

REJECT PASSIVITY. ACCEPT RESPONSIBILITY. LEAD COURAGEOUSLY. EXPECT THE GREATER REWARD.

September 1, 2017

“Without you, Coach, I don’t know where I would be.”

One of our high school players said this to me several times this summer. His name is “Z.” He has heart, street smarts, personality, and a growing curiosity for the things of God.

Z has had many roadblocks in life: he had heart surgery and his father passed away before his first birthday, he’s been in and out of trouble, had family members in and out of his life, and currently is homeless.

Several times as I am taking him to a new house to stay, we will have the following conversation:

“Coach, I hope to be a part of Freedom Hoops, but I don’t know if I will be alive next summer,” Z says.

“What?!” I reply.

“Yeah, Coach. I have been in too much stuff in the past, and if I come across the wrong person, I may get shot,” Z will say.



This fear continually shapes the way Z lives on a daily basis.

Z has an awareness of the existence and holiness of God, but he is cautious to surrender his life to Jesus. We have had several conversations about living for Jesus, and I pray that God would remind him of the short time we all have on earth.

Would you pray that the Spirit draws Z to God and illumines Jesus as preeminent?

We remain grateful for your support that has allowed hundreds of conversations like these!

Michael Loney