



FCA Outdoors Care ministry

Relationship

Relationships lead to longevity and longevity leads to impact

Relationships are a foundation to having a healthy soul. First, the relationship with your Heavenly Father is the only place to start. Additionally, having the right people in your corner is vital to having a healthy soul. Leaders with FCA need relationships with coaches, pastors, donors, volunteers, or teachers in order to have impact. These relationships help build and grow the ministry. Leaders can not do it alone, they need relationships outside of the ministry as well; friendships where one is truly known and seen on a soul level. Relationships also allow for a continuation of an experience. When the “camp high” fades, the relationships will not.

Leadership can be a lonely and isolating place; to do it well, and do it well for the long run, it cannot be done alone.

Shared experiences

Shoulder to shoulder, knee to knee, and soul to soul

There are several parts to shared experiences that build off of the foundation of relationships:

1. Reflection

Reflection is soul maintenance. Doing things that are intentionally different from the typical fast paced settings leaders like ministers, coaches, and athletes find themselves in. This means slowing down, not just physically, but mentally and spiritually. Taking a moment to fix your eyes on Jesus allows you to assess how you are truly doing. From here, it is more clear to see what is nourishing or what is contaminating your soul.

In order to see your reflection in water, it has to be still enough. Often, the starting point is to ask God to calm the waters of your soul before you are able to look inward.

“Be still, and know that I am God” Psalms 46:10

2. Adventure

Adventure is taking intentional time to fill yourself up with activities in God’s creation. It is here He often reveals Himself with a fresh perspective. Adventure is a break from the normal and routine. This is not just an escape, but an opportunity for engagement shoulder to shoulder. Some of these adventures may even be challenging, like learning to fly fish or climbing a mountain. But often the sweetest rewards come from doing difficult things.

Hospitality

Serving the servant

Hospitality flips the script. Leaders are often expected to give, but hospitality creates a sacred space where they can receive. Authentic hospitality is a direct reflection of who Christ is. It is the foot washing Jesus modeled.

Hospitality weaves together soul care, relationship, and adventure into one life-giving experience. Each component can be impactful, but they are far more effective when integrated. Hospitality gives space for a leader to feel seen and known, enabling them to do the same for others.

Whether it be inviting a couple people into the boat for the day, or hosting an overnight trip, hospitality is the heartbeat behind the FCA outdoors care ministry. I passionately believe that the Pacific Northwest FCA and faith community as a whole, can be radically impacted by this ministry. Healthy ministers lead to healthy ministries. Healthy ministries have a lasting impact.