

PIECES OF LIFE'S PUZZLE



May 28, 2025

Dear _____,

After 4 ½ years here, I'm amazed by how quickly students come and go. About the time I get to know them, they move on. I know they should, but that doesn't make it easier. Across the nation, they step into careers, ministry, or family life, but with a different perspective than when they came.

Just this last week, as evening shadows stretched across campus, I listened to students' testimonies before being baptized. A young woman stood and shared the following:

"To be totally honest, for years, I was a deeply pessimistic person. No matter what someone told me—good news, exciting things—I could always find two or three reasons why it wasn't actually that great. I thought I was being logical. That was just how I saw things, and I lived in that mindset for a long time. But eventually, I got tired of it, sick of feeling that way, especially when I noticed that all the Christians around me seemed genuinely joyful, and I kept thinking, 'What is wrong with me?'

*"That's when I started seriously investing in my spiritual life. I talked to people further along in their faith, I started reading books, and I cried out to God, 'You've got to help me.' I laid everything on the table and prayed, 'God, I want You to transform every part of my life. I **don't want to be made up of a bunch of puzzle pieces—school, people, opinions. I just want ONE piece, and I want that piece to be You.**'*

"From that crisis moment, I built a routine, where each morning I recite Romans 12:1-2: "I beseech you therefore, brethren... that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God."

I then pray, and ask God to help me have a good attitude.

*"One day, after a Starbucks run, I told my sister, 'I just love people! I want to tell them that Jesus loves them!' She laughed, but honestly, I was okay with that. **God has transformed my life, and for that, I am so thankful.**"*

As I write this, the question comes to mind, “Where did this happen?”

Right here—amidst old trees, aging steps, and stained-glass windows rich with history. She’ll never be the same, because she chose to be in a place where God could speak to her. Where would your child or grandchild go for life-changing experiences if this great institution—founded on the vision and bravery of Martin Wells Knapp—wasn’t supported by the friends and family of GBSC?

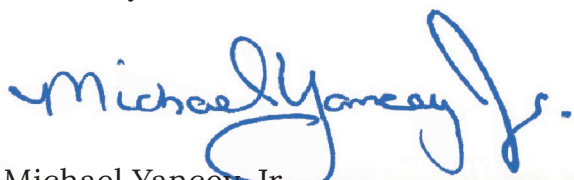
With this in mind, we have a *very special project*- enabling us to continue reaching young people like her all over this nation.

We have the unexpected opportunity to buy two NEW diesel vans for less than the cost of cheaper gas vans. They are designed to run twice the mileage with lower upkeep.

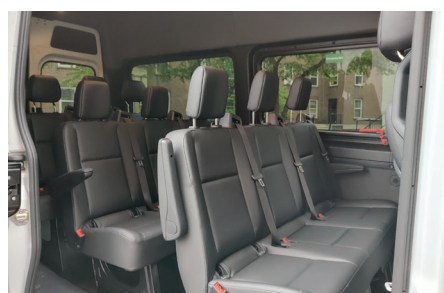
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