

## **You Are Called**

By Kasey Kaimann

Columnist

This month, Pope Francis called for the “whole Church to live an extraordinary time of missionary activity.” But what does that mean?

It means this month in particular; we are called to invest in truly living out our missionary call. You might think to yourself, ‘but not me, I’m not a missionary.’ But indeed, you are. By your baptism, you are called to go and bring the gospel to people.

This might sound scary, however, being a missionary isn’t all that complicated. It all boils down to love. If you can love the person in front of you, you are doing great!

In our crazy busy days of college life, it is so easy to ignore the person in front of you, let alone even look at them. However, if we want to impact this world, this is the place to start.

Mother Teresa once said, “If you want to change the world, go home and love your family.” How different our world would be if we all did just that. Living in dorms, our family becomes our roommates, neighbors, and others on campus. Just imagine what our campus would look like if everyone loved the person right in front of them all the time.

There are times where you are called to speak about Jesus, but no one will listen to you if you don’t let them encounter the Jesus that’s living inside of you. How awesome would it be if after someone gets to know you, they walk away thinking, “Wow, if Jesus is anything like them, I want to meet Him.” This is our goal.

Now I get it, we all have bad days and can't be at 100 percent all the time, but the least we can do is try.

Something that I like to say to myself when I don't have the energy to love is 'earn your pillow.' This gives me encouragement, thinking that this might just be the only encounter or chance of that person encountering love today, and I am not going to let my excuses outweigh it. And after a day of loving with all I have, I will always have my pillow to rest my head on.

Also, you never know the impact of what one small encounter could have on a person's life! Never underestimate what God can and wants to do through you.

Alright Kasey, we get it, spread the love and bring Jesus to people, but do you have any other tips other than to love? Yes!

Try some of these: see Jesus in every person you meet, be an 'Easter' person (aka bring the joy), follow the inclinations of where the Holy Spirit is leading you, get out of your comfort zone and say hi to strangers, don't be afraid of awkwardness, love with everything you have (earn your pillow), smile, only talk positively about others, and don't be afraid to speak about Jesus and what He means to you.

So now get out there and love!