

# #HOWTOLIFE

**Harrison, AR – Approximately 700 junior high and high school students attended the event, #HowToLife** -- a completely student-led event on February 3, at North Arkansas College Pioneer Pavilion.

Students from dozens of churches, and numerous area high schools participated.

One of the big features of #HowToLife was the completely student-led worship band. This music ensemble was an all-star group representing several different high schools. God worked powerfully through their music!

Morganne, a sophomore from Valley Springs, said, “God moved so many people towards him last night. He was ever so present, and touched everyone there in some way. I love being able to worship freely with my peers, and see those troubled people turn to the Lord.”



The dramas were powerful visual representations of the spiritual battle that high school students face. Many students shared how much the dramas spoke to their hearts.

Throughout the evening, students shared their personal stories in the form of “panels.” In each panel, these leaders shared from the theme, “Love God.” The first panel focused on loving God “with all your strength,” the second “with all your mind,” and the third panel “with all your heart.”

Lauren, a junior from Harrison, shared, “God moved through everyone and took over. He helped those on the panels speak his word and touch others. He spoke through the drama to show his unstoppable love. And he spoke through the band in worship. He stirred so many hearts and helped those who were afraid come to him.”

Seth, also a junior from Harrison, said, “At HowToLife I saw God speak through the panels to bring so many kids into His Kingdom and led others to rededicate their lives to Christ.”



At the end of the evening, the Gospel was clearly presented. Toby Johnson, a senior at Harrison High School, shared his passion about the Cross of Jesus. Then Jordan Whitmer, a senior at Harrison High school and founder of HowToLife, communicated how to begin a personal relationship with Jesus.

When the call came to come forward to begin this relationship, the response was overwhelming. Numerous students flooded the front of the stage, to kneel at the cross, to choose a new beginning with Jesus.

Zac, a senior from Branson, said, "I saw hearts open for Jesus and kids running to the cross. And I saw the next generation of leaders open their hearts and they were equipped to go out into the mission field and serve Him!"

Courtney, a senior from Bergman, said, “I saw God break chains of sex, pride, lust, and greed. Those desires were replaced with a hope of God's grace.”

Student counselors, who had been trained in the Gospel, were able to meet and share more with these students.

Isaac, a sophomore from Harrison, said, “God convicted my friend to have a relationship with Him, and I got to lead him to Jesus.”

The final challenge went out to the remaining students. Jordan declared, “You can’t hold Jesus in one hand, and the junk he died for in the other.” Hundreds of students wrote down specific sins on a card, and took that card to the foot of the cross – to be clean, and forgiven!

Follow-up continues to take place. Harrison high school students are stepping up to mentor and disciple students who came forward this evening. All area churches have been given names of those who made commitments at HowToLife.

Some of the biggest impact came on the student leaders, who realized God used them powerfully to impact their peers for Jesus. Olivia, a junior from Harrison, said, “God spoke to me and told me that I need to share my testimony. This event really opened my eyes to realize that I am not alone with some of the struggles I have. I also learned that even if you are scared to do something, if The Lord says go and do something, you must not stop because you’re scared. In the end we’re here for God not for our own pleasures.”



Harrison area student leaders met weekly in preparation for this unique event. For the month prior to the event, up to 40 students assembled each week at Crossroads Church, Harrison, to further prepare for the big day.



These student leaders prayed, worshipped, rehearsed dramas, and received practical training on how to share their personal hope story, and how to present the Gospel in non-religious language.

Lauren, a junior from Harrison, concludes, "I am so blessed to be able to see him use us and bring more people closer to his kingdom. You could feel the amazing energy through every part of the night! And thank you again for this amazing opportunity!! It felt amazing to speak God's word! I'm already ready to do it again!!"

Additional #HowToLife student-led events are planned for Mountain Home, Arkansas, on February 17, and April 2016 in Springdale / NWA.



The mission statement for #HowToLife is to mobilize high school and middle school students to lead their peers to stand and live for Jesus. To see the video report from Branson #HowToLife, and for more information about this growing student-led movement, please visit [HowToLifeMovement.com](http://HowToLifeMovement.com).