

MOMENTUM BUILDERS

DIGGING INTO THE HEART OF THE MESSAGE.

"I AM SECOND"

KEITH MINIER

*Keith Minier sets up the Momentum Youth Conference theme "I Am Second."
He provides three keys for enacting a "second" life in which God's plans and values are more important than your own.*

MESSAGE OPENER: HE TOOK MY PLACE

It was February 1941, Auschwitz, Poland. Maximilian Kolbe was a Franciscan priest put in the infamous death camp for helping Jews escape Nazi terrorism. Months went by and in desperation an escape took place. The camp rule was enforced. Ten people would be rounded up randomly and herded into a cell where they would die of starvation and exposure as a lesson against future escape attempts. Names were called. A Polish Jew Frandishek Gasovnachek was called. He cried, "Wait, I have a wife and children!" Kolbe stepped forward and said, "I will take his place." Kolbe was marched into the cell with nine others where he managed to live until August 14. This story was chronicled on an NBC news special several years ago. Gasovnachek, by this time 82, was shown telling this story while tears streamed down his cheeks. A mobile camera followed him around his little white house to a marble monument carefully tended with flowers. The inscription read: IN MEMORY OF MAXIMILIAN KOLBE; HE DIED IN MY PLACE. Every day Gasovnachek lived since 1941, he lived with the knowledge, "I live because someone died for me." Every year on August 14 he travels to Auschwitz in memory of Kolbe. "Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one's life for his friends" (John 15:13).

Source: Victor Knowles, Peace on Earth Ministries. Adapted from Crossroads Family Circle.

<http://www.sermoncentral.com/illustrations/sermon-illustration-sermoncentral-stories-peace-christianlove-eastergoodfriday-6069.asp>

READ: John 3:22-30

WATCH: Keith Minier —Momentum 2013. 44 Minutes. <http://onmissioninsights.com/IAMSecond>

KEY POINTS:

Artificial Boundaries. Do we create artificial boundaries with God in which we think in our minds—this is my part and this is yours? In reality, how many times do we realize that He really owns it all?

I am Second Keys:

- We have to choose the right reputation to make famous. God's or ours.
- You have to be alright with being the only one to live an "I Am Second" life.
- You have to train to win in the moments of trial

CLOSING CHALLENGES:

A Piece of the Pie. What portion of the "pizza" are you holding onto? Don't just answer in your mind. Have a moment of discussion with your peers. Decide to have a conversation about this question with a friend.

Less I, More I Am. The essence of Christin existence is giving away pieces of "I" to "I AM." It is our job to follow Him and seek to see him so that we give away what was never ours to hold onto. To live to give away self for sake of Jesus means we see I Am as worth it. How are you seeking to see him more everyday?

Training Camp. In the moment of trial or temptation, we might wish we had trained better. How can we train now in preparation for the tough challenges that the teenage years bring us? How can you set time aside this week to train? How can these actions become habits? Who could you need to set up a mentorship time with to discuss these things?