

Got Jesus?

By: Steubenville 2009 attendees

“Yours, O LORD, is the greatness, and the power, and the glory, and the victory, and the majesty; for all that is in the heavens and in the earth is yours; yours is the kingdom, O LORD, and you are exalted as head above all.” 1 Chronicles 29:11

On Thursday July 10, 2009, 19 San Juan del Rio youth and adult chaperones departed Jacksonville International Airport for the annual three day Steubenville Youth Conference. Since 1976, the University of Steubenville in Steubenville, Ohio has played host to thousands and thousands of Catholic youth from throughout the country and the world inviting each of them into a closer and more meaningful relationship with our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

We asked our group what they thought about this year’s conference – their comments are below.

Sheliah D -Above All was the theme for the Steubenville conference this year. Our youth group had an awesome experience at Franciscan University. What an experience to see and hear 2100 Catholic teens showing their love for our Lord.

Bryant L -Steubenville was a fun and spiritual experience. I really enjoyed Adoration best of all.

Katy P -Steubenville helped me to pray better and helped to open up and have fun. Steubenville is a great opportunity for teens to become closer to God because they taught us that God always loves us and will always forgive us no matter what we do.

Jamie P - Steubenville is such a great experience and I am so happy I had the chance to go. I got much closer to God and I made amazing friends. I will never forget Steubenville, and I strongly recommend it to everyone. I am the person I am today because of my first experience at Steubenville. It is truly amazing, and like nothing I have ever experienced before.

Julianna B -Steubenville opened my mind to power and greatness of our faith and our Lord. It helped me become a better person and a better Catholic.

Joseph F -Steubenville was an exciting trip made especially great by the easy to relate to speakers. It is an experience that you don’t want to end.

Nicholas T –Steubenville was a great way to get closer to God. Steubenville was a good learning experience.

Mike V–I had another great Steubenville experience again this year. Steubenville helps me to see things from a stronger spiritual point of view.

Matt K –“I was Blessed by the Best” during my Steubenville weekend. This weekend gave me the chance to renew my faith and strengthen my relationship with God. I also learned that it takes more guts to stand up for what you believe than to jump off a cliff.

Hunter L -Steubenville was a great experience for me, and would be for anyone who tries it, because you grow closer to God, learn about your Catholic faith, and have fun all at the same time! You are with 2000+ Catholic teens just like you from around the country and you make a bunch of new friends while you are there. It was one of the best times of my life!

Emily B –Steubenville was once again one of the best times of my life. It was amazing!! It was a rough trip there which is shocking because it took 18 ½ hours less than last year. In the end it was worth everything to just be there.

Katie G –My favorite part of Steubenville is the unbelievable adoration experience and praise and worship! It's awesome just to be crazy for Christ in a whole different way!

Alex G –WOW Steubenville was amazing. What I learned from Steubenville is that God gives me strength to keep my head high.

Mac C -The weekend I spent at Steubenville was a great eye opener. There were great speakers from around the country speaking about God and great stuff like that. It helped me grow so much in my faith.

Juan S –It was a good way to bring myself closer to God. It was fun - I made new friends – everyone was nice.

Deacon Larry -Designated as one of the chaperones for the Youth Conference in Steubenville, I was delighted to discover that my experience would be more than what I could ever imagine for a "youth-designated retreat". It provided some tremendous speakers on topics the teens are regularly dealing with, some contemporary spiritual music that the teens could easily relate with, and it was truly an uplifting, informative experience that I will whole-heartedly recommend for any teen at any age.

Drew D -As written above, each person experiences this conference in their own way. The important message from all is that they understand that God is an important part of their lives, and that He is there for each and every one of us. Adoration is a great time to show God how much we appreciate Him in many ways, through prayer, song, silence and worship.

From the Steubenville website:

"The conferences combine awesome talks, incredible music, praise and worship, time for prayer and fellowship, entertainment, and anointed liturgies. Basically, it's a weekend to get rocked by God, to get serious about life in Christ and His Church, and to learn the truth of the Gospel."

We are looking forward to 2010!!!