

## Impact 2021



Two weeks ago, at Impact, 7 Yorkshire students made the decision to reaffirm the vows that they took at baptism or that their parents made on their behalf when they were baptized as infants. As these students were remembering their baptism, they declared their commitment to Christ and to His Church! We celebrate this decision with Ashley, Alyssa, Alexis, Max, Melina, Jason, and Sarah!













The following was written by one of our own teenagers about her week at Impact.

If you want to see what God is doing in the lives of our teens, here is a fantastic place to start:



"Throughout the week I was reminded of God's faithfulness and provision in my life. Where I look back and see myself settling for unhealthy relationships, I now see fruitful, Godly relationships that pull me closer to Christ. Where I look back and see a girl influenced by her peers, I now see a strong woman who finds her identity and worth in who God says she is. Where I look back and see an athlete going through the motions, I now see someone who has learned that God can be glorified through anything, even basketball. Where I see a middle schooler living out a dry faith that was more of her parents, I now see a young adult who has made her faith her life's foundation.

Far too often I've forgotten or minimized God's faithfulness. He has taught me that there is power in surrender, for my greatest blessings and reliefs in life have come when I handed things over to God. He turned an average high school relationship into a Godly relationship beyond what I had ever pictured. He gave me a new identity and confidence in Christ. He taught me that my value does not come from works—my value does not come from who I am, it comes from Whose I am. He showed me that when I step out on the court I'm playing for an audience of One who doesn't care about points, but instead cares about the way I play and the reason I play. He opened up my heart to feel Him mighty close and He softened my heart to a position of surrender. All these changes throughout my life are God, they're not me. God has been faithful, He has been good.

I look back in seventh grade when I got baptized the first time. I see someone young in their faith ready to take a leap but not sure where they'd land. Now, I am someone who has the maturity and faith to truly declare God's goodness over my life. I decided to re-affirm my baptism at Impact because I have seen God's faithfulness in my life. The God I serve is so good and so powerful. He has carried me through the first chapters of my life, and I surrender this next chapter to Him. As I set forth into this new chapter, I aim to make surrender a habit, and to live my life according to God's will, not mine, and I pray that you can too!"

