



Success in Chicago!

October 12, 2006 - We are excited to report that the RPJ Ministries Leadership Basketball Camp in Chicago, staffed by BCI Edge players, was a remarkable success. From August 3 to 5, high school seniors from the state of Illinois, hand picked by their coaches, were challenged to examine their values both on and off the court. Making the transition from high school to college can be difficult and this invitation-only event presented hard-hitting topics about choices, responsibility, and values. Roger Powell and BCI Edge players led the camp participants in drills and discussions that, in effect, caused these players to reexamine certain aspects of their lives. They didn't get a lecture; they got leadership! See our photo gallery for pictures of the camp.

One especially poignant off-court discussion was about choices and responsibility, including sexual involvement, which included a dialogue about the 1998 Sports Illustrated article, ["Where's Daddy?"](#). Ending up this session, Pastor Paul Vick, Austin TX, asked the campers "which road are you going to take"? Another discussion was inspired by one of the camp's participants, who is one of the [Lost Boys of Sudan](#). A civil war refugee at just 10 years old, this courageous teen spoke to the camp about his tumultuous life. He wrapped up his talk by saying, "After what I experienced, and what I went through, I knew that there had to be a God who looked after me and got me through this tough journey."

We are now preparing for our 17 day tour in China. We will be bringing our team together in in South LA, September 12, for four days of practice, before leaving for China on September 16. While there we will be hosted by World Impact. Between our two a day practices, we will be doing outreach with World Impact and kids in their elementary school, sharing at their daily chapel service, playing pick up games at the community center among other things.

We continue to believe that professional-level basketball players can provide role models along with an exciting way to share our values across international and social borders.