



Close-up On Campus

Campus Ministry in Southwestern Pennsylvania and the Mid-Atlantic

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Year 4 Summer Review

Venezuela: Building His Movements

“Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations..” Jesus’ final words as recorded in the book of Matthew. It is the command and adventure He gives to all who follow Him, and leading the Venezuela Summer Project for me was certainly an adventure! It was my first out-of-country experience, first project director experience and first exposure to Spanish!

‘What were you thinking, God?’ I wondered to myself, ‘Clearly I’m not qualified!’ Yet God reminded me that He calls us in weakness and

qualifies us in His strength (2 Cor 12:10). We took a team of 7 students, over 300 people heard the gospel, 90 people indicated decisions for Christ and seven Cru movements were launched in Maracaibo during the quick five and half weeks we were there! I was so surprised how receptive they were to Jesus, praising Him for the

First Bible Study / Movement the Science campus at the University of Zulia has ever seen



Our team: (top left): Cornelius, Kenny, Me, Caela, Matt (bottom left) Christi, Jenna, Steph, Melissa, Grace (1 YR VZ staff)

spiritual growth in our team as well! At the end of the summer all of our students wanted to pursue some sort of long term missions (quite unusual).

You may be aware of some of the political unrest there now, though. Pray for the Venezuelans as their controversial October 7th elections threaten more unrest.

Bible Thought:

Unless the Lord builds the house, they labor in vain who build it; unless the Lord guards the city, the watchman keeps awake in vain.
Psalm 127:1

Book Recommendation:

Victory Over The Darkness
by Neil T. Anderson

Please Pray

- Men in Thrive Groups. We have never seen such a low turn out from freshmen men.
- Students to be bold and creative in sharing their faith at IUP, Mt Aloysius (MAC) and UPJ
- Aftermath of Venezuela elections, that the political landscape would not hinder our partnership there or the growth of the ministry
- An outreach we’re planning for Oct 25th called I Agree With Kelsey and Ryan. That planning would be with His wisdom and guidance.

Praise God!

- Changed lives and launched movements in Venezuela!
- Ladies coming in droves to our Thrive Groups!
- 12 indicated decisions for Christ in the first week of Fall 2012 classes!
- Mt Aloysius has solid weekly meetings and plans; they’re taking off!

Venezuela: Jesus Saves Leonardo

“Will it turn me into a Christian,” Leo asked through a translator about giving control of his life to Jesus. Leo is a biology student at the University of Zulia in Maracaibo, VZ who had at the time never heard the gospel before.



God used Melissa and I to lead Leo to Christ

After meeting him on campus one day, Melissa

and I went through the four spiritual laws with him. I'd never seen a person so attentive! He was even eager for the ends of my illustrations! He was nervous to commit though, because of the bad reputation Christians have there. We met him over four days and every day asked him if he was

ready to follow Jesus. On the last day he told us that while he felt like a coward, he didn't want to be afraid anymore. He accepted Christ and became a consistent student who helped to make up the first regular Bible Study to ever see the Biology campus!

IUP: Jesus Saves Jess

Jess couldn't put her finger on it, but after leaving a Cru meeting last spring she knew everyone there had something she didn't. Jess had a few classes with Becca, one of our leaders, and after about a month Becca invited Jess to Cru. Little did Becca know that Jess had felt something was missing for awhile. She'd

looked to relationships, substance abuse, alcoholism, even counseling over the past year and felt hopeless; she hadn't met Jesus, yet though.

After the Cru meeting Jess tried to slip out the back, but Becca found her first and introduced her to Ashley, her Bible study leader. They shared the gospel with Jess and

..[God] has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ..

1 Peter 1:3

later that night, in tears Jess gave her life to Jesus! She no longer feels hopeless, but rather has a living hope (1 Peter 1:3).



IUP Cru weekly meeting

IUP: Jesus Saves Many

It was our last weekly meeting of the Spring Semester, but it was the first time for ten people! Unheard of! By the end of the year we'd seen about 13 indicate decisions for Christ! Students were continually inviting people to the weekly meeting, Bible studies and week end events. In the cycles of

momentum the spring starts big and eventually dwindles to record lows of consistent involvement. We found just the opposite as each week more and more people were showing up, hungry to grow, even on conflict nights (when popular concerts or other events were happening on campus).

IUP: Missing Something?

Eight! After spending countless hours designing posters, inviting friends, giving hot chocolate away, promoting the event, and sharing the gospel, eight students who attended our Missing Something outreach indicated decisions for Christ!

*“Most actors on most days don’t think they’re worthy, I have no idea where this insecurity comes from, but it’s a God-sized hole. If I knew, I’d fill it, and I’d be on my way.” -Shia LeBeouf**

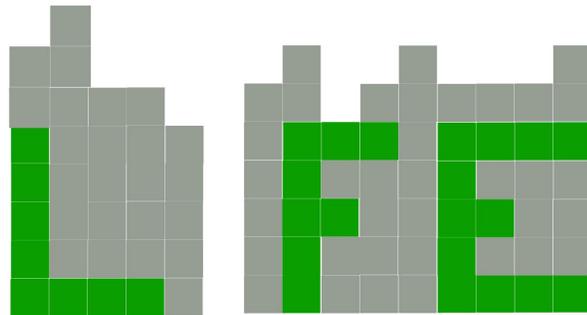
Each semester we plan a big scale outreach to both provide a platform for people to hear the gospel and begin a relationship with Jesus as well as create awareness for Cru on campus. It’s given our students vision for the campus and opportunities to serve. This time we identified several recognizable celebrities who had each revealed a longing for something more in their lives. While our students clearly attended, about 60 who had never been to Cru also attended—eight indicating decisions for Christ. God is at work at IUP!

Missing Something?

“Sometimes I believe in God, sometimes I don’t... I want to believe in an afterlife. That when you die, it doesn’t just all disappear. The wisdom you’ve accumulated. Somehow it lives on, but sometimes I think it’s just like an on-off switch. Click and you’re gone.”

-STEVE JOBS

Steve felt it



get some answers

thurs 8pm hub delaware room

www.everystudent.com

One of 4 posters we plastered around campus with probing quotes from Steve Jobs, Tom Brady, Shia LeBeouf and Rihanna

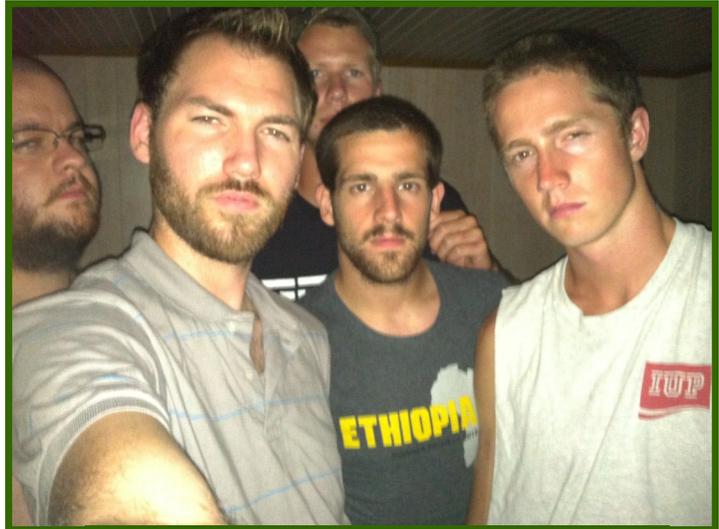


Cru Regional Director, Michael Frey, spoke to over 200 students

Thrive Group: The Magnificent Seven

Fall 2012. It was the first study of the year and it rained cats and dogs! I'm leading a Bible Study for many of our men in leadership positions in the movement. We hope that these studies (which we're calling Thrive Groups now) will help our students to grow in community and leadership as they find deep roots in the Word.

Because of the rain we changed our meeting place to Kenny's house, but two guys still couldn't make it. To top it off right before we were about to start the power went out. Pitch black! Again, I thought, 'What are You up to, God?' Sure that we would have to cancel, I gathered up my bags. But the guys insisted on continuing. They pulled out flashlights, we went into the basement and began. I was so encouraged that despite power loss and pouring rain, they were committed to God's Word. Pray that God would continue to bolster their love and strength of faith!



5 of the Magnificent Seven (as they've dubbed themselves) From the left: Eric, Me, Mike, Mark and Kenny, (unpictured: Tyler and Nate)

Modeling Evangelism

One of the men I disciple on a weekly basis, Tyler, and a new Cru transfer student, Theron, took a Saturday evening, picked up Chinese and watched Kung Fu movies. It was a great way to build fellowship and in an informal way encourage their faith. We stopped at Martin's where there's a great Chinese buffet type section in the

back. The server happened to be an international grad student at IUP named Li. I struck up a conversation with him to be friendly, but also with the hopes of exploring his spiritual background. He was surprisingly open and honest. He spent seven years studying the Bible in China as a student, but didn't know what to believe right now. I shared with him

how natural and easy it was to share our faith with him! I pray that God would continue to show him how to do the same not only as he goes through college, but the rest of his life as well!



about my belief in Jesus and an international Bible study through Cru that he could join. As we walked away Tyler remarked at

Thank you again for your prayers and hearts for Christ!

For His glory, (Col 3:17)

David Coffey
Cru