



Ministry Update for the Browns
April 2013

Big Break Update

Big Break was an unprecedented success for our students at Bunker Hill and UMass Boston as we saw more students take this step of faith than ever before. We asked our students to share with us what they learned from the experience...

Paula: I learned that every time you evangelize, the next time will become easier. My next step of faith is to bring these techniques to my church.

Marc: I learned that no matter what the location or what's going on, God can be brought up in conversation. My next step of faith is to talk more in school about God.

Evan: I learned to share my faith on a whole different level this week. The most awesome time was getting the chance to lead two young girls to Christ! My next step of faith: I will step up my game at UMass this semester.

Deneshia: I've learned how to really trust and rely on Jesus and to forget about me and let him lead and how to evangelize and listen to others. Can't wait to do it again. My next step of faith is SUMMER PROJECT!

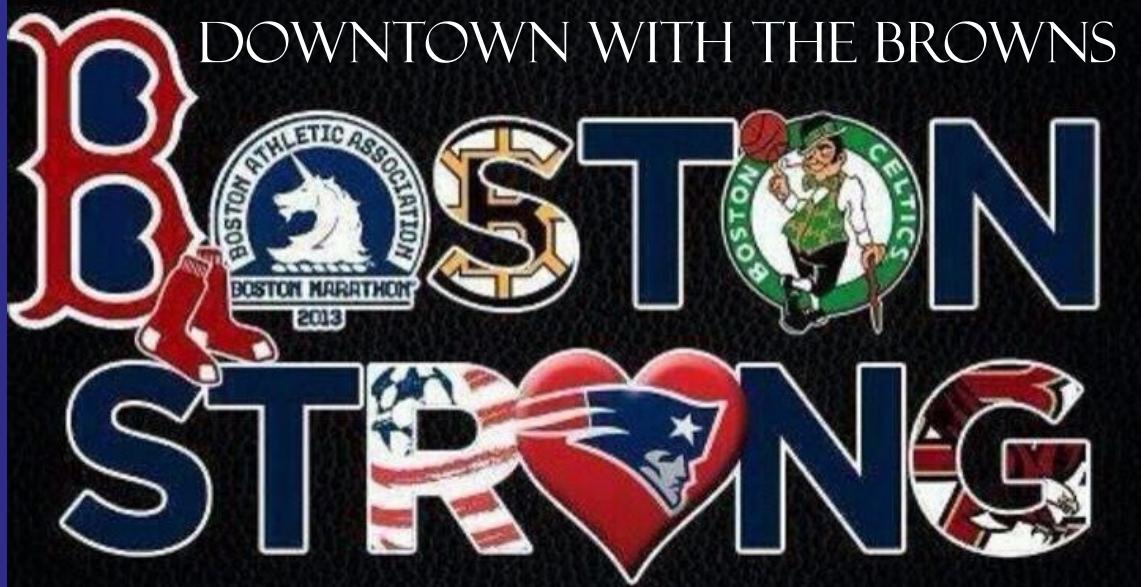
Thank you for your prayers for these men and women — God answered!



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APRIL 15, 2013

Two weeks ago, during our kids' school vacation week we went to VA to begin to pave the way for our permanent move there. While returning from a potential UVA fall retreat site we were suddenly inundated with dozens of texts asking if we were okay. What we didn't know was that minutes earlier the Boston Marathon had ended abruptly due to a terrorist attack. We were devastated. Our daughter had two classmates who were chosen to sit at the finish line of the race to cheer on their math teacher who was running. (Thankfully, we found out they were both okay, but shaken up by the events.) We spent the week, as most Americans did, glued to the TV, trying to make sense of what had happened. It was very difficult for us to be away, and preparing to move, from a city that has become home to us for so many years and has grown so dear to our hearts. Jena became a Christian here. We met, fell in love and were married here. Two of our three children were born here. We have seen many students make radical and inspiring decisions to follow and grow in Christ here. We began to cry out to God on behalf of our friends and neighbors who we have grown to love so much.

We quickly found out that one of the brothers involved in the attack was a student at Bunker Hill Community College, where we have made it our mission for the past five years to be a light on campus so that every student would know someone who truly follows Jesus. This has really hit home for us in the sense that more than ever, we are grateful for our calling to reach the lost and feel compelled like never before to urge our students to reach out to their fellow classmates in love.

We are inspired by the movement toward normalcy and healing that has taken place in our city since then, from a Little League parade in honor of one of

the victims to begin their season (Logan and one of the victims were in the league together — Dorchester is a small town) to recognition of first responders via spontaneous applause on the street. And yet, we believe that a greater healing will one day take place. The moniker "Boston Strong" reminds us of the One who is ultimately strong and Who will carry our hurting city through this tragedy: "my rock, my fortress, and my savior; my God is my rock, in whom I find protection. He is my shield, the power that saves me, and my place of safety (Ps. 18:2)." Join us in praying for His strength to come upon Boston in drawing people to Himself, bringing His kingdom of ultimate peace and unshakable security.

MOVE UPDATE

We closed on our house in Virginia last week and prepared the house for the arrival of our things. We leave Boston on May 27th and will arrive late afternoon on May 28th in Charlottesville. We would love help packing up in Boston and unpacking in Charlottesville. Please let us know if you will be available. If you are in the Boston area, on May 18th we will be having a farewell party at our house from 5-9pm. Please come and see us before we leave!

PRAY FOR THE BROWNS

- Please pray for Boston!
- Please continue to pray for God's will to be done regarding the kids' school situation in VA and that they will find godly friends who love Christ even at a young age.
- Please pray for us to raise the support we need to begin well — both personally and operationally for UVA.
- Pray that the many strains put upon us during this season would not impact our marriage negatively but would strengthen us as husband and wife.

I know that my redeemer lives, and that in the end he will stand on the earth. - Job 19:25

Love, Andrew, Jena, Olivia, Logan & Samuel Brown