



**Real Life
BOSTON**

a ministry of Cru

Ministry Update for the Browns
January 2013

ROHAN'S TESTIMONIAL FROM EPICENTER

Rohan, one of our students from UMass Boston, attended Epicenter for the first time. With several physical and speech disabilities, Rohan often feels like an outsider in social contexts, but enjoyed the fellowship and new friendships he made as a result of being at the conference. The following is what he shared during our time of debrief:

"I didn't think I could do this conference because I had a disability. I didn't think I would fit in because of my disability. Then in the men's group a young man stood up and said that he didn't feel like he fit in. That made me feel great and I shared more than I thought I could or would. I want to be an inspiration to everyone I meet."



Rohan and Xavier (UMass)

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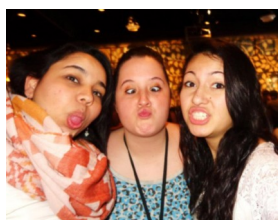
DOWNTOWN WITH THE BROWNS



The Epicenter Experience, Cru's winter conference for students from colleges and universities in the northeast, took place over Martin Luther King, Jr. weekend. Epicenter was a wonderful experience for our family as well as our students! We were privileged to bring 36 students from Bunker Hill and UMass Boston which was the most ever we've ever had at the conference. Students spent four days participating in great worship, having fellowship with over 400 other students from around the Northeast and doing things like a "digital faithwave", where they shared their faith through Face-



book, Twitter, texts, emails and phone calls. They heard from speaker Matt Miklatos, author of several books, including *Imaginary Jesus*. A gifted storyteller, Matt challenged our students with modern retelling of such passages as Luke 7:36-50 and charged them to love mush, as the woman who poured perfume on Jesus' feet had done. The final session culminated in students signing a pledge to the Lord that they would "Go where you want me to go, do what you want me to do, give what you want me to give, and say what you want me to say." It was a powerful evening of surrender and many of our students signed the pledge!



Bianca, Michaela, and Paula (BHCC)

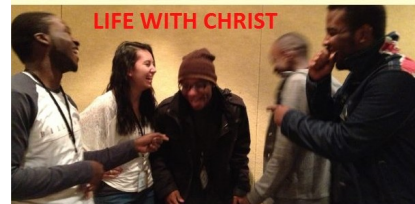


Estella, Rachel, Angela, Vallery

BEFORE CHRIST



LIFE WITH CHRIST



Roberto's Faithwave Project that was posted on Facebook

NOW WHAT?

We always enjoy taking our students to retreats and conferences because we love to see how God will use them as "epicenters" in their lives, and what waves of faith will result from that one experience. In a debriefing time led by Jena, Boston students shared about next steps of faith. Students from BU, Harvard and UMass alike shared things they felt God had put on their hearts through a result of being at the conference. For the first time ever, many of our students are seeing the value and significance of doing a summer missions trip with Cru, and several have already applied for projects both domestic and international! We praise God for softening their hearts and revealing His heart for the world to them.

PRAY FOR THE BROWNS

- The spring semester is finally here! Please pray that we might get to meet new students and that we would be able to have opportunities to talk about God with them.
- Please pray for Samuel to continue to grow and thrive during the winter months, and for Olivia and Logan as well. Pray also for Jena to be a good mommy to all three of our children, and for supernatural capacity!
- We are in the process of recruiting for Big Break, our winter mission trip to Florida. Please pray that students would consider joining in this very influential and exciting conference! We would love to have twice as many attend this year!

Happy New Year!, and may you walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called (Ephesians 4:1) in 2013!

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