



Clay & Emily Selway

SERVING WITH CRU IN SOUTHEAST OHIO

October 31, 2018

Unique Perspectives

“The meaning and purpose of life is to live for yourself, to be personally happy and comfortable.”

“I think all people are generally good.”

“Jesus was just a great spiritual leader.”

“I don’t really know what God is like.”

“I think to get into heaven, you just have to be a good person.”

These phrases rose above the din of the noisy student center and crowded academic buildings and pierced my (Clay’s) heart.

All of these quotes* were taken from students I spoke with two weeks ago as a part of our “Perspectives” Outreach. During this week long outreach, Cru staff and students set up big posters all around campus emblazoned with colorful words and pictures that asked questions like “What is God like?” and “What is the meaning and purpose of life?”

The goal of the outreach was to open up dialogue with students who might not otherwise want to engage with Christianity, and hopefully give an opening to share the Gospel with them in a way they could understand.

It was through this outreach that I met Jake*. Jake stood before me, arms crossed, thinking hard as we spoke.

Jake had grown up in the church, but really struggled with the idea of hell. “Let’s say you have a son,” he said. “If your son rejected a relationship with you, you wouldn’t torture him or send him to some terrible place of punishment, right?”

“Actually, I do have a son. A five month old that I love very much. But say in twenty years, he decides he doesn’t want a relationship with me and leaves my home, I can’t stop him. At that point, he has chosen the broken relationship and all of it’s consequences. Our relationship with God is similar. He won’t stop us from choosing to reject Him. Hell is a place away from God and His goodness. He’s not sending people there because He wants to punish them. He’s just letting them have what they’ve asked for.”

Jake didn’t walk away convinced to follow Christ, but he did say he had a lot to think about. He, like many students, expressed appreciation for the chance to be heard and have their questions answered.

“I’ve never heard all of this presented like this before. It makes a lot of sense.”

“This is really interesting. We have different views, but I totally see the line of thought about what you believe.”

Thank you for being with us as we labor to help students like Jake hear and understand the Gospel. Please continue to pray for them, especially the handful of students who have continued to meet with our staff and students to continue learning more about Jesus.

*Quotes have been paraphrased. Jake’s name changed to respect his privacy.



Students engage with the outreach outside of the OU Student Center.

Perspectives Outreach by the Numbers

275 - total students who had extended conversations with outreach teams.

73 - total students who heard the Gospel.

10 - students I got to personally speak with.

3 - students who accepted Christ.

‘Til the Whole World Knows,

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Family Update & Prayer Requests

We have once again had a bit of a whirlwind month. Elliott continues to do well, and got to experience his first Fall Retreat. He is almost crawling, sitting independently, and can roll as a form of locomotion. He is turning into quite the extrovert and loves all the attention students give him!



Prayer Requests

- For the students who requested to continue the conversation (over 70!) Pray that we would be able to meet with them for further discussion.
- For our families, as we've had numerous relatives in and out of the hospital due to various issues over the last month.
- That we would be able to continue to build not just the size of our Bible studies on campus, but also the depth of community that our students experience.
- For the women's conference on Saturday, November 10th, and for Emily as she leads a seminar that day.