

Musings in Ministry

November 3, 2006

It's November already?! I cannot believe how the year is flying by! Life has taken a turn for the *crazy* the past few weeks and as I look ahead to the next two months, there isn't much relief in sight... **But**, what an exciting time of year! The Boston Winter Conference is just two months away; and our Northeast Regional Staff Conference is in just over two weeks.

I am enjoying "Conference Season" and the work that it brings. It's energizing for me to work on such large projects and realize, in the midst of it, that I am incapable of doing this on my own. A few weeks ago, I was sitting at my desk feeling completely overwhelmed and prayed, "Lord, I need You." In that weary moment I felt such joy as I realized that this is where the Lord wants me. He desires that I work hard, but more so, He wants me to simply depend upon and find satisfaction in Him.

New York, New York

While all of this was happening, I realized something else: I was losing sight of the reason for "Conference Season" in the midst of my work. Thankfully, the Lord opened a door for me to get out of Boston for *26 hours* and join three of our Regional Directors on a campus visit!

We headed to the Big Apple to visit our New York Metro team and really, what an encouraging time! I had the privilege to meet with three of our new staff women, Jen, Lisa and Suzy and check in on how they are doing in life and ministry. All are new to the city and each sensed God's specific call to minister to students in New York. I was amazed at how well they are doing in their first few months on local campuses!

Jen is a photographer and works with art students, Lisa works with fashion and culinary students and Suzy has seen tremendous interest and growth in working with Jewish students. I am encouraged by their faith and willingness to travel to their various campuses spending, at times, 1-2 hours *each way* in their commutes to meet



with students, lead small group Bible studies and train students in the areas of evangelism and discipleship.

Our Metro ministry is unique in the sense that one staff team is responsible for the numerous colleges and universities throughout the city. These women are each overseeing different schools and trusting God to build spiritual movements in their areas.

How do we reach cities? This question is one of significance. In the recent past I have been thinking a lot about God's heart for the city and the need for believers to engage with the city. One of the highlights of this trip was seeing that although we don't have all of the answers, God *is* using and guiding these gifted staff, moved by the Gospel, with compassion and love for the city, to reach the lost. It's an exciting time to know the Lord and to be in ministry!

Please Pray for ...

The Northeast Regional Staff Conference, Nov. 18th-21st. We desire to challenge and encourage our staff.

The Boston Winter Conference, Jan. 3rd - 7th. We hope to double our numbers to 600 students - visit www.bwc2007.com for all of the details!

All of our NE staff teams, but specifically this month please pray for our New York Metro team. Pray that God would give them wisdom and resources to reach the lost and continue to experience Christ's compassion for the city.

I am so thankful for your partnership! I really cannot do this without YOU!!!

- *Jessica*



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