

THE SILLYSHEEP PEN



FINDING THE LOST BINDING THE BROKENHEARTED

Eternal Peace

OCTOBER 2010

"I want to find eternal peace," replied Dean, a freshman.

I was pretty surprised at his answer to my simple question. It was the first week of school and on this particular Thursday. I was following up on students who had indicated interest in spiritual things, through either our website, lunch surveys, posters, or book table. It's pretty packed the first few weeks of school. Between our student leaders and staff, from Cru and Epic, we meet with hundreds of students, looking to connect Christian students with our spiritual family on campus, and building relationships with non-Christian students so that we can share the wonderful news of Jesus Christ.



THE SELF-DIRECTED LIFE

Self is on the throne

Christ dethroned and not allowed to direct the life

Interests are directed by self, often resulting in discord and frustration

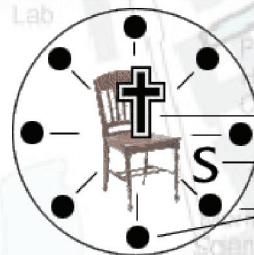
I had asked Dean what was the one thing that he wanted to make sure he did, in this lifetime. I glanced over to Charly, a Dominican student who is in my men's small group. It was a signal to start praying. As I transitioned over to the "Knowing God Personally" booklet, I saw Charly lower his head. As I went through the booklet with Dean, moving from point to point asking clarifying questions and giving opportunities for Dean to express what he had understood, it was clear that Dean was following along with what

grace really meant. I stopped at the two circles which represented two kinds of lives. "Which circle best represents your life, Dean?" I asked.

"The one on the left," replied Dean after some thought.

"Which circle would you like to represent your life, Dean?", I asked further

"The circle on the right", replied Dean earnestly. I glanced over at Charly to see how he was doing. He had never been out sharing his faith before.



THE CHRIST-DIRECTED LIFE

CHRIST is on the throne

Self is yielding to Christ

Interests are directed by Christ, resulting in harmony with God's plan

As Dean prayed to invite Jesus into his life, I marveled at just how amazing it is to serve our Lord. Not only, was Dean's life changed for eternity, but Charly was "getting it". Evangelism is not just for the supposed über-Christian. It was for everyone, most importantly, it was for Charly. All we are asked to do is to take the initiative in the power of the Holy Spirit to share our faith, leaving the results up to God. And it turns out our God longs to reconcile all men to Himself. So all the more let us be faithful.

"For the harvest is plentiful but the workers are few, Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field."



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Oct 4, 2010

Hello

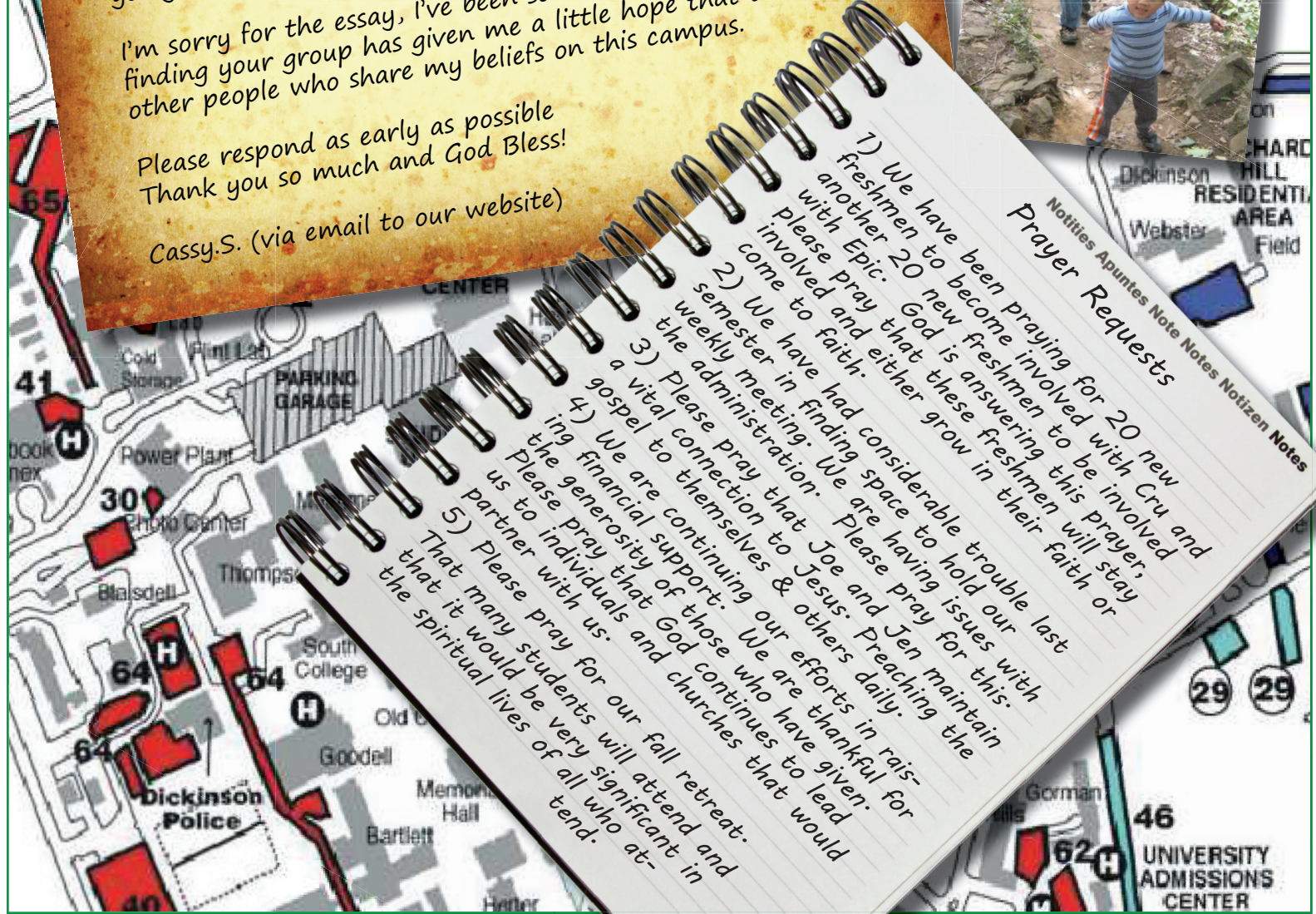
My name is Cassy.S. (name changed) I am a freshman living in XXX dorm. I have been having a lot of trouble adjusting to life on campus without the presence of God in my life. I come from a catholic family although I do support non-denominational churches as well. I have been having such a hard time living to the standards of my faith on weekends, not partying or going out and I have had trouble making friends and have felt isolated. I've looked at the Newman center but they really don't do much and it has not helped to the extent that I hoped. A lot of other clubs that I have looked into take weekend skiing or hiking trips, but they drink at those trips. I know you're a faith based organization and I'm really interested in going on your fall retreat but I'm very afraid that there will be alcohol. I feel terribly judging a group before I have met the people involved but I have become so wary of people on campus that I have to ask you for an honest answer, will there be any drinking or "illegal activity" on this fall retreat?

I'm also concerned that I will have trouble making friends and feeling included in the group if mostly upperclassmen who already know each other are going, will there be any freshman going?

I'm sorry for the essay, I've been so discouraged lately and finding your group has given me a little hope that there are other people who share my beliefs on this campus.

Please respond as early as possible
Thank you so much and God Bless!

Cassy.S. (via email to our website)



Prayer Requests

- 1) We have been praying for 20 new freshmen to become involved with Cru and another 20 new freshmen to be involved with Epic. God is answering this prayer; please pray that these freshmen will stay involved and either grow in their faith or come to faith.
- 2) We have had considerable trouble last semester in finding space to hold our weekly meeting. We are having issues with the administration. Please pray for this.
- 3) Please pray that Joe and Jen maintain a vital connection to Jesus. Preaching the gospel to themselves & others daily.
- 4) We are continuing our efforts in raising financial support. We are thankful for the generosity of those who have given for us. Please pray that God continues to lead us to individuals and churches that would partner with us.
- 5) Please pray for our fall retreat. That many students will attend and that it would be very significant and the spiritual lives of all who attend.