

# The Sillysheep Pen

finding the lost  
binding the brokenhearted



THE GOSPEL IS GOOD NEWS BY JOE CHAU

August 2009

"If we're always masquerading as people who have it together, we'll never know the amazing joy of being accepted when we don't have it together", reflected Rick from the stage. It was nearing the final day of our Biblical communications class in Fort Collins, Colorado and Jen and I, along with our entire class, were intently listening. Rick Hove, the head of Faculty Commons (the part of Campus Crusade charged with turning lost graduate students and professors into Christ-centered laborers) was preaching an example sermon and in the first 5 minutes he had masterfully drawn us in and led us to a place where we were desperately hungry for the message of the cross to bring healing and renewal into our lives. 20 minutes later as the sermon ended I hurried to jot down one quick note. "Leave people hungry for Jesus."

The courses we took this summer were incredible, from Biblical Interpretations to Old Testament survey, Systematic Theology to Biblical Communications. Each course left us intellectually, spiritually, emotionally and even physically challenged. The days were incredibly full with readings and class assignments. But even more so, we were continually challenged with self-reflection and repentance and worship. And if I had one sentence to summarize the whole experience it was crystalized in that one quick note. We had grown (both in breadth and depth) in our hunger for Jesus, because He alone is glorious and He alone is the one who redeems us. Our time here has renewed and intensified our desire to play our part in igniting student's hungry for Jesus.

Tomorrow we'll be leaving Fort Collins and returning to Massachusetts. As we look forward to our coming semester there is so much that we hope for. But

we know the key is walking humbly in step with the Holy Spirit and trusting in His goodness. Jen and I plan on spending the month of August in intentional prayer and fasting for UMass, Epic, and many of the other schools in Western Massachusetts which are in our scope.

Please join us this month as we pray for:

- 1) Spiritual awakening on our campuses.
- 2) That the Holy Spirit will convict students, staff and faculty of their sin, they self righteousness and their worldly judgement (John 16:8)
- 3) Wisdom to recognize our limitedness and relying more fully on the Holy Spirit.
- 4) Wisdom on how to lead Epic in reaching lost Asian Americans students.
- 5) We are burdened with the realization that 70% of incoming Christian freshmen nationwide will walk away from their faith by the end of their 2nd year of secular college. Please pray that the Lord will protect incoming freshmen and that many of them may find a place to grow in their faith with us.
- 6) As we mentioned in our last prayer letter, we will be focusing in the coming semester on reaching lost freshmen. Please pray that God will give us favor with the RAs and others administrators (and students) and open many doors for us to share the gospel and start small groups in the freshmen dorms.
- 7) Last year we asked for prayer for our Fall retreat and we saw a record 45 students attend. This year, we are praying for 100 students, which is impossible apart from God.
- 8) Joe's aunt is undergoing surgery and chemotherapy. Please pray for her healing.



If you would like to financially partner with our ministry, please give us a call or send your check to the address below. Please make checks out to "**Campus Crusade for Christ**" with our staff account number (**#0569044**) in the memo.

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