

The Sillysheep Pen

Finding the lost, binding the brokenhearted



<http://www.ministryupdates.org/chau>

LOVE HATE RELATIONSHIP

November 2014

"I love it, I love it and I don't know what to do!", sobbed William (name changed). Through tears, he confessed his slavery to multiple daily substance addictions. Around him a group of over 30 young men, listened and nodded. It was Saturday evening at our fall retreat.



"So what I'm hearing you say is that you no longer want to get high, no longer want to run to getting high for comfort and acceptance, but you are turning 180 degrees and placing your trust in Jesus", guided Tim. William nodded through streams of tears. It was important for William to understand what he was doing. This was repentance.

William, a second year engineering student, has helped lead worship at times, attended a Christian high school and was a honor college student at UMass. But he was leading a double life, and it was eating him up from the inside.

This year our theme for the fall retreat was "going deeper, growing roots". Cru at the University of New Hampshire had been for the past several years experiencing a spiritual awakening of sorts. Students at UNH would regularly repent publicly of their sexual sins, their fake lives, their addictions, and more. One by one they were prayed for and many have experienced healing and restoration, over time. Seekers are invited into this community of extraordinary transparency as they also witness the Spirit of God heal and restore, through the body. And as they witness the body and the Spirit, they too are transformed. Reports from their community read like the book of Acts. And indeed God does add to their number.

At UMass, we wanted our students to experience the Spirit in a deep, fresh way, and it all happened Saturday night. After a day of teaching and meditating on the greatness of God, the sinfulness of man, and work of the cross, hearts were finally prepared. We had spent months praying for the Holy Spirit to work miraculously.

One by one, around the circle, students confessed and repented, of sexual sins, pride, drunkenness and drug addictions. Split between men and women, almost every student brought things into the light and were prayed for and set free.



It's been a month since, and William is doing great. "I've never felt more free", he shared over coffee. He's been involved with "The Experiment" in the honors dorms and meeting daily with others to discuss scripture and make God known. 🐑



To support our ministry you go to: <http://give.ccci.org/give/0569044>



For 21 days in November, 369+ Cru and Epic students from UMass Amherst, including friends, professors and colleagues, are reading through the Book of John to put an end to the atrocities of sex trafficking.

How does the 21 Day Challenge work? A donation is given to the Freedom Cafe for every 7 chapters in the Book of John that's read by those participating in the Challenge.

"...AND YOU WILL KNOW THE TRUTH AND THE TRUTH WILL SET YOU FREE." - JESUS (John 8:32 NLT)

Why connect this campaign to the Book of John? Reading through this particular Gospel offers potential first-time Bible readers a wholistic explanation of who Jesus is and why *"Jesus is the ultimate champion of freedom for all people everywhere."* Find out more information about the 21 Day Challenge, at <http://www.read4freedom.org>.

While raising awareness of the harsh realities of the sex slave industry, students are discovering God in new and powerful ways.

The UMass 21 Day Challenge has created an open dialogue for participants to dig deeper into God's Word and engage in spiritual conversations. Students are meeting together to discuss what they've learned and share challenging questions with their peers and Cru Staff leaders.

Here's what some students are saying:

"First time reading the Bible." - 21 Day Challenge Participant

"How does Jesus balance wanting to save people with wanting to only select the true-believers? Might some eventually learn if given the time?" - 21 Day Challenge participant

"I really am enjoying reading the Book of John once again, it's a great reminder of the story of Jesus." - 21 Day Challenge participant

One student shared her experience on the Read4Freedom Facebook Page, where you can hear what others are saying about the Challenge:



Read4Freedom at UMass

November 4 at 4:52pm · 🌐

I am really enjoying the challenge. It's helping me be intentional about reading the bible every day and talking to my friends about Jesus. Today, after reading Ch4 I talked w my friend about spiritual thirst and the tension of being satisfied by God and yet longing for more.. For eternal life. We also talked about what it looks like for us to do Gods will.

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Prayer Corner

1. Please pray for Joe and Jenny, that we would continue to experience God's overwhelming love. That we would make every effort to stay in step with the Holy Spirit.
2. Please pray for us as we seek to be wise and godly parents. Pray for our children that they will walk faithfully with the Lord all the days of their lives.
3. Pray for us to lead our team and our students in wisdom, boldness and compassion, so that our team and students will live out the gospel and experience God's grace and truth in community.
4. Please pray for our emerging Faculty ministry. We have been weaving opportunities for Christian Faculty to be involved in everything that we are doing and it's really exciting for both students and faculty.
5. After 8 years at UMass God may be opening up opportunities for us to minister in a different manner, please pray for us to seek the Lord's will and listen for His wisdom.
6. Please pray for our student leaders to grow in dependence of the Lord and His Spirit. And to be bold in sharing the gospel.



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For more information contact us or go to:
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