

The Sillysheep Pen

finding the lost, binding the brokenhearted



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

Lost and Found

May 2012

In our October 2011 prayer letter we shared with you about a young woman (freshman) who came to receive Christ. Betsy and Kayla (a staff member and a student small group leader) met with Melissa (name changed) as a follow up appointment to a lunch line survey that Melissa had filled out, on which she indicated an interest in a personal relationship with God. As part of their first conversation, Melissa invited Jesus into her life, but also was transparent about her struggles with same-sex attraction.

At the end of our report we asked for prayer, because shortly after she invited Jesus into her heart she began attending events sponsored by the Stonewall Center (the UMass funded LGBT education and advocacy center). At the time of our prayer letter she had stopped attending her small group bible study and was seemingly distancing herself from Cru. And so it seemed for the rest of the Fall semester.

Kayla tried to keep in touch with Melissa and from time to time was able to meet. The tone of the conversations changed radically from previous meetings. Filled with angry, hurt, doubtful, from the documentaries she watched at the Stonewall Center (<http://www.umass.edu/stonewall/>), Melissa had many tense questions for Kayla about how gays were viewed by God, and Christians. As time went on it seemed more and more like Melissa was slipping away.

Then one day early in the Spring semester, Melissa approached our club table in the Campus Center Concourse where thousands of students pass every day. She asked the students at the table how God felt about homosexuals. Nervous and awkwardly, Charly, a student in my small group, answered with grace and truth. Without reply Melissa left the table.

Not long after, Melissa unexpectedly showed up to our weekly meeting, and week by week she kept showing up. Eventually she joined a small group, and during the final exams week, perhaps in reply to President Obama's now public support for gay marriage, Melissa's facebook status read *"I believe in biblical marriage, one man and one woman"*.

"Our greatest fear should not be of failure but of succeeding at things in life that don't really matter." - Francis Chan

Thank you for your prayers. We cannot say this enough. We know that it is God at work as we all partner in prayer, finances and proclaiming the truth so that the lives of students like Melissa are transformed by the gospel. Throughout our six years here in Amherst we have often seen God move through divine appointments, a special openness to the gospel, hardships overcome, and we often conclude that it is a result of your faithful prayer for our ministry and for the students at UMass and the five colleges.

In the upcoming year we would ask for special prayer as Joe takes on a new role as team leader for the UMassCru team. Please pray that Jen and Joe would lead out of an abundant life rooted in Christ and for our family as we transition to our new role. Over the summer we will write more about this as well as things that we are trusting God for in the upcoming school year. We are so humbled and blessed to serve such a God and we long for the continued advance of His kingdom. 🐑

Prayer Corner

1. Please pray for Joe and Jenny, that we would maintain a vital relationship with Jesus and that we would make Him our first in everything.
2. Please pray for Matt Han our 2nd year intern as he leads at the San Francisco Epic Summer Project.
3. Please pray for Jeff Chan as he leads at the Southeast Asia Summer Project.
4. Please pray for all our interns as they raise support for

next year. (Matt, Jeff, Aaron, Keith, Christina, Shannon)

5. Please join us in praying for revival on our campuses.
6. Please pray for the launch of our Latin American Student ministry.
7. Please pray that the Lord will lead us to new financial partners who will partner with us for UMass, Smith College, Amherst College, & Mt Holyoke College.

• Joseph & Jenny Chau • Campus Crusade for Christ @ UMass • 162 Farview Way, Amherst, MA 01002 •
• if you would like to support our ministry please email or call us at joseph.chau@uscm.org or 413-230-0189 •
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