Campus CRUsade for Christ

Aug/Sept 2008

Joe Congdon & Felicity Ippolito

An alarming number of students don't know the gospel. We were reminded of this reality as our team took two days last week to be intentional about finding leaders to help us start new movements on our campuses.

Brett said that he was 100% sure of his salvation, but when asked why, he went on to give his resume of how many activities he was involved with at his church. Jesus didn't play a part.

Chekeena said she used to believe in God, until one night she was awakened by some unknown force that comforted her. Now she worships that force and her ancestors. Our hearts break for these students as we listen to their stories and what they believe.

But Jesus has a plan. Mike at Webster prayed to receive Christ this afternoon! A new school year has begun, but our message and mission remain unchanged. A new generation of students has arrived on our campuses, and we labor so that all of them might have the chance to respond to the gospel.

We've met literally hundreds of students the past few weeks as we make initial contact, share our faith, and invite them to join us. Last weekend our staff team held a city-wide leadership overnight for 120 local leaders who came to receive training, pray and plan for their campuses.

Joe was refreshed as he taught a session on the Spirit-filled life and Felicity did an amazing job teaching a seminar on the history of missions. Many were moved to hear William Carey's words challenging the Church to take the Great Commission seriously.

WEBSTER

We've met about 200 new students at Webster and had a great turn out to our "Wii Love Jesus" Party. Caris, a sophomore, shared her testimony, and we invited everyone to come experience Christ with us.

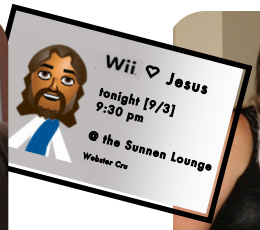
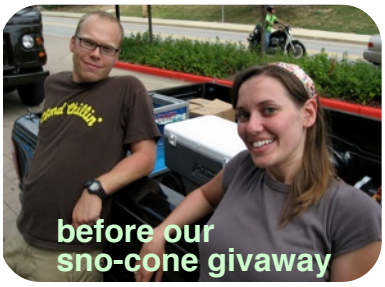
Praise the Lord, for the 1st time in years we have a solid team of student leaders! One of them, Nathan, led Mike, a freshman, through a prayer of salvation with Joe today! Pray that he'd grow in his faith! We currently have three student led small groups. Pray that these groups would multiply so that more can experience community and study God's Word.

ST. LOUIS U.

We have one small group at SLU right now that Joe is co-leading with a student, Timothy. New students continue to come every week! Please pray that it would soon grow big enough so that a new group can branch off.

We are partnering with a nearby church in effort to meet the unique needs at SLU. Pray for us as we begin new initiatives there involving a mentoring program for youths, and a book discussion aimed to share Christ with intellectuals.

TRUMAN STATE

Praise Jesus for our strong group of leaders at Truman. We had 18 come to school a week early to get training in movement launching when we went up there in August (see picture above)! We continue to take new ground in Kirksville and have even started a small group at a nearby community college!

This week is Living Water week. We're going up there to help them in a week focused on outreach. Pray that we would be bold and clear with the Gospel.