

New Ways to Share the Gospel at Webster

The night started with Ava, the president of the Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgendered and Questioning (LGBTQ) Alliance, addressing the group with the guidelines and hopes for the evening. CRU had gathered with the Alliance to watch the documentary "For the Bible Tells Me So"—a film that follows five families' reactions to having a gay or lesbian child. After Ava spoke, I (Joe) shared the following words:

"People care about what God says. If we didn't, this movie would have never been made. Our motive is to be made right with God, but the fact is that our behavior cannot accomplish this task. Our presupposition is that God in his nature is holy and perfect, which is very different from us. We are unholy and in need of direction, which is why the Bible is so important."

(Webster's school newspaper did a story on the night here: <http://tinyurl.com/cruandlgbtq>)

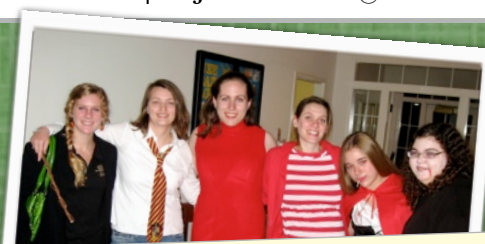
There are different interpretations of the Bible and we as Webster CRU hold a different one than the makers of this film. Two opposing interpretations of the same text cannot both be true... While the question before us is a difficult one - "What does God say about homosexuality?" - the easy thing to see from scripture is that all human beings carry with them a sin problem that separates us from God."

After watching the film, we engaged in an open discussion about it and our personal convictions about homosexuality. It was refreshing to hear the LGBTQ students acknowledge that the film was biased. The discussion continued for two hours following the film and we were able to answer many questions that arose.

While we were apprehensive walking into the discussion, it really couldn't have gone any better. We were able to

ask forgiveness, corporately, for all of the sinful abuse that the homosexual community has felt from those who call themselves Christians. Additionally, we were able to communicate that the Bible teaches that the Lord has a specific plan for human sexuality that is limited to heterosexual, monogamous, covenant marriage. It is hard for many to understand how you can love someone without affirming everything they do, but I believe we were able to make progress by pointing them to Jesus, showing that it is possible.

It was so encouraging to have this opportunity to dialogue with the campus this way. In the four weeks following, I led a Bible study for about 8 students with a specific focus on studying what the



Felicity at Webster costume party



LGBTQ Bible Study

Bible really says about homosexuality. We had some great discussions. They weren't always easy, but the Word of God was honored and we were able to grow together as friends.

We've found that these types of discussions are a great way to engage Webster University with the gospel. We've planned a series of forums for next semester with guest speakers coming in to talk on a specific topic each month. Please pray these times would lead to equally fruitful discussion and Bible study.

Please pray for these upcoming forums, that students will come meet Jesus during the discussion!

January 23- God & Sexuality- Pastor Joel Lindsey from the Journey

February 18- God & Suffering - Jerram Barrs from Covenant Seminary

March 23- God & Human Rights- Jessica Patterson, human rights worker from DC

April 20- God & The Environment

Please pray:

- Our baby girl is due Jan. 25! Please keep her and Felicity in your prayers-- Pray that Felicity would enjoy the new role God is giving her as a mother!
- Pray that our students would walk with the Lord over Christmas break. It has been discouraging to see some of them make bad decisions lately. Pray they'd treasure Jesus!