

November 1, 2022

Brian & Malisa Ellis – Serving with Cru in Boston

Change Boston



Equipping the Multipliers

It was one of those perfect fall days. Nicole, Caroline, Hannah, Hannah (yes, another one), Maura, and Emily all filtered into the light-flooded living room in Nicole's apartment. They all entered with different things on their minds: some were playful and silly; others were fragile because of health issues; a few were anxious because of their classwork loads. But they all enjoyed each other, and I welcomed them with a tray of yummy snacks.

These 6 women are all co-leading discipleship groups of students at Northeastern University. I disciple these women in pairs, but they also need a place to all be together and encourage one another as a community of leaders.

I'm working to equip and train these students to be spiritual multipliers for a lifetime. I used one of Cru's resources called Connect cards to start the conversation. I asked them:

- 1.) What is one characteristic you received from your parents you want to keep?
- 2.) If you could do anything to glorify God and knew you would succeed, what would you do?
- 3.) What causes you to see your need for the Lord?

Everyone in the group shared, and then I asked: "What questions do you have for each other?" It was so fun. Some follow up questions: "Why would you want to work in a Christian hospital?" "Why do you want to do street ministry as a doctor someday?"

These six women are uniquely wired and it's such a joy to watch them connect with God and with each other.

When I use a resource like this, I do it to make sure that these women can do the same thing in their groups. We're working to grow deeper relationally and spiritually, but I'm also modeling how to have conversations that help people grow deeper relationally and spiritually.

We're reading Paul's letter to the Colossians together. In Colossians 1:11, Paul prays that they would be "strengthened with all power, according to his glorious might, for all endurance and patience with joy"

I love Paul's prayer. It's our prayer that, like the Colossians, these women would be filled up and then sent out to reach their campus, Northeastern, to reach their city, Boston, and do that on the way to the World.

Thanks for the vital part you play in taking the gospel to the World.

Loving our adventurous Lord,

Brian & Malisa



Hannah and Nicole (on left) with other Northeastern students in our backyard for a firepit outreach last week

Would you pray:

- For Nicole, Caroline, Hannah, Hannah, Maura, and Emily that they would experience being filled up by God and that they would have His power to endure.
- For our "Next" conference Nov 5-6 to help students consider their calling after graduation.
- For our girls, Sydney, Eliza, and Genevieve – that they too would be strengthened with God's power.



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