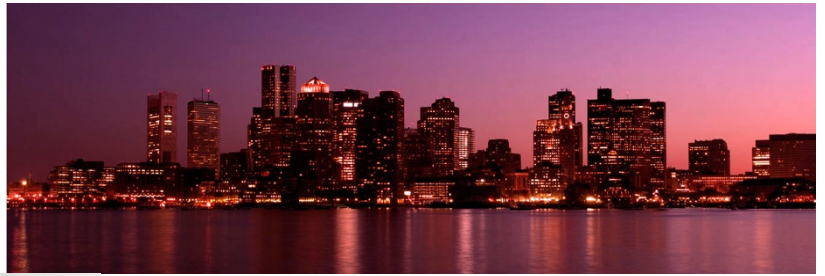


Feb 7, 2024

Brian & Malisa Ellis – Serving with Cru

Change Boston



The Lord is at work! Even now, the Lord is “adding to our number daily”

The End of a Movement?

It looked like the end of our movement. In the spring of 2022, all the seniors involved with Cru at this small private school graduated and there was no-one left. Despite our best efforts, the pandemic had left us with a few years of no younger students at this school. And the administration at this school had not been particularly friendly. We’ve often likened it to doing ministry in a “closed country” and trying to reach people for Christ.

What’s that saying about when a door closes, God opens a window? At a student activity fair at a nearby college, 3 freshmen from this small school signed up.

The first, Anna, was a strong believer who came to college looking for Cru. Two others: Sharon and Melanie quickly decided to make Jesus the center of their lives and start following Christ. These three women: Anna, Sharon, and

Melanie became fast friends and started loving on their roommates, classmates, and dorm-mates.

And a year ago, we asked them to begin praying for the next class of incoming freshmen.

By August of this year, we had the names of 6 incoming first-year women who were interested in growing in their faith. When school started, we had a pop-up ice cream bar night with these 6 freshmen and the 3 sophomores. That began what I can only describe as a mini-revival. That group has now grown to 11 freshmen (including a new one last week named Elena who found us on Instagram and wanted to get connected).

In one picture and one letter like this, I can’t begin to share it all, but each of these women in the photo has an incredible story of God at work in her life. When they started the year: one not sure she’d find community in college, another not sure what she believed, another not sure what it meant to follow Christ in college, and another not sure what role they wanted faith to play in their life as a student.

That might have been where they began, but God has done an incredible work knitting their lives together. And each week they encourage one another as they gather to grow in their relationship with Jesus.

Aren’t you blown away by the work God is doing on this campus that is fairly locked down to the Christian faith? I think of 2 Tim 2:9 “but God’s word is not chained...” It’s the power of God. Nothing can stop what God’s doing in the minds and souls of these women.

Loving our adventurous Lord,

Brian & Malisa

Would you pray:

- Pray for Anna, Sharon, and Melanie - to walk with Jesus and point others toward him.
- Pray for the 11 freshmen (so far) that are still getting to know each other- that they bond together authentically, and that they’d continue to draw others into Christian community with them.



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