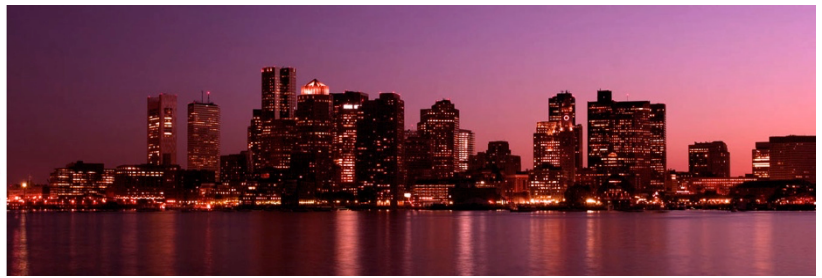


August 22, 2024

Brian & Malisa Ellis – Serving with Cru

# Change Boston



**Ainsley (R) with two friends from Cru**

## Our Prayer for Ainsley, & Our Expectation

“Ainsley” came to college committed to walk with Jesus. When we first met, it was so clear that this young lady desired to let the Lord use her on campus. She was longing for the gospel to flow out of her to those around her.

And over her college career, her prayers have been answered. She’s been joining her roommate on her spiritual journey for the last two years. They have frequent conversations about spiritual things. Ainsley invites her roommate to our weekly dinner parties. And her roommate gets to experience the gospel lived out in community.

This spring, I had Ainsley and a group of Christian students on her campus over for a night of tea and snacks. We huddled together in our living room and talked about how to start gospel conversations with their friends and classmates. And



**The friends all huddled in my living room**

while they were in our house, we potted up little succulent plants as a gift - not for Ainsley and the Cru students, but for their friends who don’t know Jesus yet. It was a way to start or continue a conversation about spiritual things.

I think Ainsley gave her succulent to that same roommate that she’s been ministering to. Would you pray for her?

We’re all about evangelism and discipleship - we want everyone to hear the gospel while they’re students and we know that the most effective way that will happen is if it’s students themselves sharing the gospel with their peers.

We have special names to describe the different ways we might share the gospel. “Ministry” evangelism is sharing the gospel with people you don’t know yet (think of finding incoming students on Instagram and then meeting for coffee to share the gospel - this is one way we meet students like Ainsley initially). “Natural” evangelism happens through relational networks (think of a student like Ainsley meeting up for lunch with her roommate after their morning lecture to share the gospel). “Body/Life” evangelism happens when non-believers experience the gospel lived out in community (think of Ainsley inviting her roommate to dinner with friends who live differently because of Christ - they experience the gospel before they understand it).

We’re working to train our students to share the gospel in “Ministry,” “Natural,” and “Body/Life” ways. But of course it always works best when there’s an overlap of all 3. To that end, we’re working to create environments where students can get practical discipleship in evangelism. They can watch people do it. They can try it out with coaching. They can do it for themselves and then train others. And then they can be sent to the world - to lead in local churches, and to fulfill the great commission. That’s our prayer for Ainsley, but also our expectation. The Lord drew her to himself. He’s also sending her out. Thanks for the vital part you play in enabling us to connect with students like Ainsley.

Loving our adventurous Lord,

*Brian & Malisa*



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### Would you pray:

We have been connecting with freshmen on social media this week, reconnecting with student like Ainsley. Next week we will start welcoming students face to face as they once again begin to flood the streets and campuses in Boston. Would you pray for us?