

November 18, 2011



“So have you ever prayed something like this before?”

Smoke rolled out from the stainless steel grill on a drafty day in late September. A small army of students laughed and conversed while others played bean bag toss and a crazy Norwegian lawn game named Kubb—a great kick-off event at UW-Platteville, and it only gets better!

I had met most everyone except for this one guy watching Kubb, so I wandered over to strike up a conversation with him--his name was Nick. When I asked him about his background, he told me that yes, he had a religious background, but that currently he was in the middle of some serious questions about faith. He didn't know if he would end up in heaven, and his answer to my question “how does someone become a Christian?” was this: “I don't know—but I tell you what, you have to pray a lot. That's one thing I don't do enough of.”



As the sun began to set and a cool wind started to blow, I asked him if he'd mind if I shared with him what the Bible says about those questions. As we talked for the next twenty minutes, it became clear that God had brought Nick to the grill-out for a reason. When I asked Nick if he had ever prayed to give his life to Jesus he said "no"--but he'd like to. I asked him a clarifying question (my favorite part of the story!): “Nick, what would happen if you prayed this prayer?” He replied, “Well, if I prayed this ‘leap of faith prayer’....” he paused, looked at me and said, “I can call it a leap of faith prayer, right?” To which I replied, “Sure, go ahead!” Nick continued, “Well, I guess I'd be telling Jesus that He can come into my life and do whatever he wants with me.” I wholeheartedly agreed. I asked him one more question. I said, “And what happens to your sin?” He looked me in the eyes and said, “It is all forgiven.”

So right then and there, between the volleyball court and a rousing game of Kubb, Nick gave his life to Jesus. Next thing I knew, Ethan--one of our main student leaders--came over and I said, “Hey Nick, tell Ethan what just happened.” Nick then proceeded to make my night as he said, “Well, I just asked Jesus to be my Savior, and told Him that He can do whatever He wants with my life!”

Pray for Ethan as he does follow-up with Nick. Pray that Nick would continue in his walk with Jesus. And pray that Nick really would let Jesus do whatever He wants with his life!