

the gillespies and the Good News



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REACHING OUT TO Σ Φ Ε

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Last week I, Jason, had the opportunity to **lead a discussion group at the Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity** on "Faith and the Greek Life." Receiving the invitation was an exciting answer to prayer; I really want to invest time with the brothers there since I am an alum of the same fraternity at Michigan Tech. The discussion started slowly and people drifted in and out a bit, but in the end we had a good discussion. Eight people came to talk about faith, and five of them stayed for the whole time.

One of the most exciting things for me was when one of the students shared his opinion that there is **"Faith" and "faith"**. Contrasting the two, he said "faith" is based on knowledge—the reasonable belief that something will happen based on past experience. "Faith," he said, is not based on much, but religious people tend to cling to it very tightly. I challenged him with, "My religious faith is your lower case 'f' faith." I was blown away when he said, "Now we can talk," since we would both be dealing with facts and history. How cool!

After the discussion, the only Christian student at the discussion and I talked with two others brothers for another *hour and a half*. Instead of just talking about faith, however, we got to share the gospel from Genesis through Jesus and address several difficult questions:

Are there any absolutes? What is morality based upon (is it external to culture)?

What is the nature of sin? Are there any unforgivable sins?

How does a Christian, specifically how do I (Jason), treat "sinners"?

Why should marriage be only between a man and a woman? (Alternately, could man have improved upon God's original design for relationships?)

It was such an exciting time and so encouraging for me in my first interaction with SigEp. The two students we talked with were so open to considering who God is and not just arguing that He isn't—even though one of them was a professed atheist.

I'm looking forward to spending more time with them. Today I went and ran all the steps in the Dartmouth stadium with some brothers, joining them in their daily workout. **Please pray that God would give me solid relationships, a meaningful place in the fraternity as an alumnus, and an opportunity to share Christ with each brother.**

LOOKING TOWARD THE FUTURE



This past weekend we took eight students to the Ivy Leadership Conference (left). Faye emceed and the president of a sister ministry shared how God has used people from privileged educational backgrounds, like Moses and Esther, to demonstrate His greatness and make Himself known to the world. The students most enjoyed time with other Ivy League Christians who were wrestling with the same questions regarding making Jesus the Lord of their life as they leave college, whether in missions or the workplace. **Please pray for them as they continue pondering this devoted lifestyle.**

PRAYER REQUESTS

- Our relationships with God: That we would seek Him wholeheartedly and desire Him more than anything else
- Our relationships with one another: That God would give us wisdom and grace in caring for our marriage as we start this new phase of life with its new schedule, friends, home, and ministry
- Jason's transition into campus ministry: That he'd learn quickly and be courageous to take risks and give himself lots of grace to not do it perfectly
- For the students we're meeting: Faye's Bible study on Wed nights, the guys in the SigEp fraternity, the upperclassmen