

An Update from Faye :: Aug 18, 2007

# The Summer of '07



Hello my friends!



*Some of our staff team in very ugly shirts: (left to right) Faye, Erik, Kim & Jason.*

I hope so much that this letter finds you well and enjoying the extra dose of happiness that comes with sunshine. ☺ I am at the end of an incredibly fun, refreshing summer, and I'm so excited to finally have the chance tell you about it!

**Yellowstone National Park** was where I spent most of the summer, as you know, staffing a missions project. I was working with five other staff people, helping lead a group of 31 students who were working and ministering in the Old Faithful area of the Park. The students came from all over the country, and the focus of the project was on helping them to grow in their relationships with God and teaching them how to share the love of Christ and hope of the gospel with friends and people they saw every day. The students worked 30-40 hours a week for the Park, had meetings with others in our group to develop them spiritually, and spent lots of time hanging out with their co-workers, in the hopes of having opportunities to talk with them about spiritual things.



*A few of the women on our project. Good looking bunch, huh?*

I was mentoring eight women, and I can hardly remember a time when I've had such a sweet connection with the women I was investing in. These women deeply desired to grow in their relationships with God, and, by consequence, were willing to be open and vulnerable with each other, and take scary steps to minister to the people around them. I was so proud of the growth I saw in their lives, and grateful for them—I felt like God gave me real friends in these women, not just students to invest in. They were a profound blessing to me.

We all got many and frequent opportunities to talk with others about Christ, and as the summer went on, our students saw many of their new friends come into a new relationship with Himself. One thing that they learned was the importance of going beyond general spiritual discussion and actually sharing the hope found in Christ with others. So many of the people we really cared about and prayed for came to faith. One of the women I was mentoring, Euna, even saw one of her old teachers (who was vacationing in Yellowstone) become a Christian!

And on to **Brown!** I am headed there at the end of this week. My stuff is already moved down to Rhode Island (I will be living with two other women, both of whom I already know), and starting Aug 20, we have a series of activities: staff planning retreat, student planning retreat, student orientation week, and then school starts on Sept 5. I am really excited about this new step in ministry. The team I'll be working with is big! (there are 5 other staff, 4 of whom are full-time), and the ministry is taking risks and challenging conventional wisdom about how to share the gospel effectively with college students. I'm really hopeful that I'll get to spend the majority of my time with people who are not yet Christians... my greatest passion in ministry is to help skeptics and seekers to wrestle through issues, and I'm optimistic that there will be much freedom at Brown for me to invest my time with these kinds of people.

