

September 8, 2009

Lydia and Amanda had no idea what was in store for them when they headed to Hampton Beach that hot sunny August day. In their short few hours on the beach they had two deep conversations about God.

Tim, an intern attending the intern briefing, and I were the first to initiate with them. We discovered they were atheists for basically two reasons. Amanda had experienced rejection from the church she was a part of for dying her hair red and getting a gage. (I had to ask what a gage was – basically an earring that makes the hole bigger.) A second reason they were atheists is that they didn't think there was any proof that any of the stuff really happened – like Jesus rising from the dead. Tim and I basically listened offered a few thoughts & left and then prayed for them.

A few minutes later, two others from our group went up and struck up a conversation with them. What was so cool was that it was Lisa in particular who approached them. She recently got engaged to a man who has a huge gage in his ear and tattoos – and he is a Christian. The girls were very surprised to hear this because they thought God was against stuff like that. Hearing this began to open them up to the gospel.



What is so incredible to me is that the wide and deep beach was filled with thousands and thousands of people, we only had 8 pairs of us on the beach having conversations, and the Lord led two sets of us to Lydia and Amanda. He obviously is in pursuit.

We know from Ephesians 2 and lots of other places that God's love is a pursuing love. **"But God, being rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in our transgressions, made us alive together with Christ ..."**

God is pursuing and we need to be available for Him to use us in people's lives. **As a new school year gets underway freshman on campuses all across the country are making decisions that will shape their next four years and their lives. Let's pray many come to believe in Jesus. As Paul wrote to the church in Colossae, please pray for me, our staff, and students: that God will open up to us a door for the word, so that we may speak forth the mystery of Christ; that we would speak with love, clarity, and boldness; making the most of the opportunity.**

Because God pursues,