

The Harvester

LIFELINES: using the outdoors to help students grow in relationship with God, each other, in leadership and character

September 2014



Please Pray with us

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| October 11 | For lasting impact for MIT students who will be on a Lifelines trip |
| October 17 | For UNH students on a Lifelines climbing trip to draw near to Christ |
| Each Wed. | For the weekly meeting at Plymouth State – might the students be a light at PSU |
| Nov 14-22 | Dan is preparing for this backcountry guide school, where he will train Lifelines staff |

Your Greatest Allies

“This is exactly the kind of atmosphere that we want to create among the women this year,” Allegra and Betsy said. These Cru staff women brought a dozen of their UMASS students up for an overnight women’s retreat this month. We focused on relationships with women. Often we become each others worst enemies through gossip, jealousy, and back-biting rather than being each other’s strongest allies. Through experiential learning activities while hiking, camping and canoeing, the message was clear: we need each other. The women left with a personal action plan for how they can continue to encourage and support each other on campus. This was especially encouraging for the new freshman who came on the trip as they try to build friendships and community away from home. One of the freshmen, Olivia, has not yet received Christ. Please pray that she will see God in action through these women and will give her life to the Lord.



Do you help or hinder the other women in your life?

While hiking, one team was instructed to impede the other. Here they have blindfolded their comrades to slow them down. “What are the consequences of tearing each other down? How would it change the atmosphere on campus if everyone loved and valued each other as sisters?” These types of questions helped students apply the activity to life.

“Thanks so much for everything you did for us! I have told lots of people about some of the awesome things we did... they were really amazed at how all of the activities were applied with a lesson. I would definitely do it again!”

-Judith, the Valor Lifelines Expedition



Fall Rafting at its Best

“It was amazing!” Rafting and glorifying God together... what could be better?

Recently Dan spent a weekend white water rafting with students. Students from Boston University came for an overnight and spent their first half hour staring at the sky, enthralled by the stars. While God spoke through Creation, He also used our staff to challenge these men on the 4 pillars of manhood: service, faith, integrity and courage. They practiced serving while having their hands tied to a partner's

during breakfast and did other learning activities including paddling blindfolded through some rapids to experience faith. In the discussion ensuing each of these, we were able to share the Gospel with lots of first year non-Christian students, who comprised the majority of the group. Excited about every aspect of the trip, they were very open to discussing and learning more about Jesus. Please pray that they would stay involved

with Cru at BU and put their faith in Him.

We thank God too for the UNH students who came the next day to raft and to learn about building relationships with God and others through communication. “I haven't had anything to do with religion since I was a kid; even just being here and searching is how I am trying to find out more about God,” confided one female student. We hope that the step she made here will catapult her into the arms of Christ.

A Note from the Family

The fall is always a time of great expectation for us and it has been a joy to be back on campus leading outdoor trips, proclaiming Christ and building relationships with students. Dan's days have been filled with this and with leading our team, though even I have gotten in on the action. ☺ Meanwhile the

kids have been working their way through ancient history and fractions at home, playing soccer and swimming on the lake far too late in the season. This month Dan turned 40; as we look toward the future we are considering ways to simplify our lives materially and practically. How can we make God Master



of our lives and be ready to serve Him *His* way each day? We are slowly carving away distractions but finding that it is not an easy task!