November 10, 2011

DESTINO

MEANT TO LIVE

October 21-23 was spent in the mountains with 52 Destino students (twice as many as last year!) and 67 Epic (the Asian American movement of Cru) students learning and worshipping God together. It's one of our favorite times of year. The teaching is great. We have lots of fun together. But our favorite thing is connecting with each other and hearing the amazing stories of how God is working. Here are 3 such stories to allow you to praise God along with us for the amazing things he has allowed us to be a part of. Please continue to pray for these students and the many others like them—that Christ would be proclaimed and glorified in their lives. Thank you!

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Jesus started school at Chico State having abandoned his faith, even questioning God's existence. Through some student leaders in Destino, God began to draw him back to Himself. During the last meeting of the retreat, I noticed an older woman and a young boy sitting in the back of the room. Moments later, Jesus stood to rededicate his life to Christ. He then made his way to the back to share a long awaited hug and tears with his watching mom. She had been praying for him for years. ***Praise God for His loving persistence!***

"Save someone today, let me see and guide someone from death to life!" This was the prayer of our intern, Joel, one morning this fall. Hours later, he was sitting down with Jaime at Cal State Long Beach explaining the gospel to him. Even though he thought he knew God, this was something completely new to him. Jaime expressed his desire to know God and trust in something greater than himself to satisfy his emptiness. That afternoon, God answered Joel's prayer as He ushered Jaime from death to life!

Raamses is a first year student at Cal State Fullerton that found us by way of the Cru movement at Fullerton and has been in my Bible Study and growing quickly this year. After attending our fall retreat we were talking and he told me, ***"I really want to start making a difference for God."*** Just this past week he started meeting with Janet, the leader at Fullerton, to begin helping plan events for Destino. This is how Fall Retreat impacts lives. This is how a movement begins.