



Dear Partner,

Yesterday I received an email from a mother who I could sense is heartbroken that her son is not walking with the Lord and involved in Christian community. Two years ago she asked if I could have someone contact her disinterested son with the hopes of winning his attention. One of the senior leaders in my Bible study pursued him, but seemingly to no avail. Now he is a junior studying chemical engineering, avidly following the Badgers and Packers, and his mom is hoping I can find a believer to befriend him and woo him into our fellowship. I can only imagine the anxiety of this concerned mother, desperate for the welfare of her child, watching from a distance as he shrugs off faith and fellowship for fleeting affairs. I'll certainly arrange one of our students to initiate with him again. Perhaps you would have guessed that I receive requests like this regularly from parents and grandparents. Beyond that, I assume myriads of relatives are asking God to do miracles.

Stories like this highlight the great need we have on our campus. Every year we try to organize leaders to reach out to every section of campus, not just to lead Bible studies in those dorms, as important as that is, but also to own the responsibility of saturating their area with the gospel, so that every student has multiple opportunities to say yes to Jesus.

I noticed that this mother's son is living in the area where Sam is leading. Sam is a student who joined us in North Myrtle Beach last summer for summer project. He returned to UW-Madison with training to reach out more affectively on campus.

One of the guys in Sam's dorm is a freshman named Mark. Mark is an Asian American from Wausau, Wisconsin, who came in as a professed atheist. Sam began to engage Mark week after week. They would talk about the hard sayings of Jesus, and why God couldn't be real, and how God seemed unfair. Mark's heart began to soften as he found answers to his questions. I only talked to Mark briefly a couple times after a few weeks of these conversations. At one point he approached me after a seminar I was giving, and he asked me why Jesus' death was only for three days if he was paying for all the world's sin.

On Saturday night at our Fall Getaway, while Mark and Sam were talking again about the gospel, Sam asked Mark if he was ready to trust Christ and he said he was. Sam was thrilled. The next morning, Mark stood up and told the crowd about his journey investigating various faiths and atheism and announced his new faith saying "as of last night, I've chosen to fill that void [in my life] with Christ. Thank you to all of you. Let's walk with the Lord together." Sam and his staff discipler, James, have met with Mark since the retreat to help him better walk with Jesus.

You make it possible for us to invest in the Sams to reach the Marks. May God grant our ministry an increasing ability to reach out so that we can engage every son and daughter with the life-giving Gospel of Jesus Christ.



*Scott & Bonnie Roe*



**Three students placed their faith in Christ at the Madison Fall Getaway, including two international students.**

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