

CAROLINA CONNECTION

NOVEMBER 2009



WE'RE THANKFUL FOR:

-Sean, and other students like him, whose lives the Lord has changed.

-The juniors we both get to lead in Bible study and discipleship. We're thankful for their commitment, heart to grow and the work God is doing in their lives.

-Our staff team of 9 that we get to work alongside. It's such a privilege to be working together to reach out to our campus.

-Our marriage! We can hardly believe we've been married almost a year, and are thankful the Lord brought us into each other's lives. And for all that he's taught us this first year of marriage.

-The Gospel. We're thankful that the Lord opened our eyes to the truth of the Gospel and continues to grow us through it.

-YOU! We are so thankful to have you in our lives. Your love, support and prayers are such a huge blessing to us and to UNC as a result!

"For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be the glory forever! Amen." -Romans 11:36

Sean's Story

Sean felt a little out of place and nearly left before he found his friend who invited him to our weekly meeting. He wasn't even planning on coming 10 minutes before, yet agreed to meet up with his friend and stayed throughout the entire Thursday night meeting. There he heard a message that challenged him to think about the eternal weight of having a relationship with God.

Sean hadn't really thought about anything spiritual since junior high where some really bad experiences in close friendships forced him to disregard the message of the Bible and the idea of God.

The talk at the weekly meeting began a 3 day conversation between Sean, a local pastor and his friend who invited to the meeting. Throughout the next 3 days he came to acknowledge his need for Christ, and ended up placing his faith in Him!

Sean and I (Josh) have begun to meet and discuss some follow-up material that addresses some significant biblical principles. Pray for us and our time as we begin to process what it means to follow Christ.

Reflecting on the Semester

We wanted to include a snapshot of what is going on in the lives of some of the students we lead in Bible study. Here is what a few of them have been learning:

Parker-

One of the biggest things I've come to realize is that it's not just about reading the Bible or praying to God, but it's about the condition of your heart and why you are doing it to begin with. On a heart level, Jesus chose to give me everything based on nothing to do with my merit, and I forget that every day. I am a sinner just like everyone else and I need the gospel to be true in my life everyday.

Natalie-

I think Romans 12:12- "Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer"- sums up completely what God has been teaching me this semester. I think God has really pressed on my heart the fact that I need to trust in him, that whatever I am going through has a greater purpose. God has [also] really shown me the power of prayer, and I now find myself talking to God without even thinking about it!

Kelly-

This semester I'm in a lot of new roles that I'm not used to and take up a lot of time. Through this I've learned a ton about relying on the Lord's strength instead of my own. My own strength is limited and insufficient, but the strength of the Lord is perfect, whole, and renewed day by day. Through this I've really been able to experience resting in the Lord in a new and really cool way.