

JANUARY 2010

# COAST 2 COAST

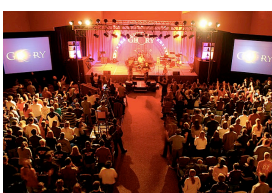
WITH CAMPUS CRUSADE FOR CHRIST

We kicked off the New Year with our annual **BOSTON WINTER CONFERENCE** (BWC). Three hundred and fifty four students from universities across the Northeast attended this five-day conference focused both on mission work and student development. The BWC focused on the theme **GLORY**. In the Old Testament the word for “glory” draws its meaning from the Hebrew word for heaviness or weight. Things that “carry weight” in your life have value and importance. God is the ultimate value to place weightiness or presence on your life. Students learned that the standard of glory is God’s holiness, something we can only achieve through God’s Son, Jesus. We ended the conference with a message on “The Call to Glory”. As believers we are called to reflect and spread God’s Glory to those who don’t know about Jesus Christ. “My favorite part of the conference was the teaching and speakers,” said Sarah Mctiernan, a student from University of Albany. “I really liked what Darryl Smith had to say. Specifically on the call to glory because it’s a good reminder about who we are in the Lord and what He calls us to do.”

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*“Bring My sons from afar, and My daughters from the ends of the earth, everyone who is called by My name, and whom I have created for My GLORY.” -Isaiah 43:6-7*

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## The Day of Outreach

One of the scariest, but most exciting days of the BWC is the Day of Outreach. During the Day of Outreach students and staff were split into 18 groups and sent out to local churches, universities, and public spaces to engage in spiritual conversations and acts of service. This happened in various ways, from handing out food boxes to the homeless and families in need, to hot chocolate at the subway stations, to participating in the blood drive. Many students are anticipating a cold, uncomfortable day of engaging in conversations with strangers. However, they are all so excited to share at the end of the day the amazing things God did in and through them throughout the day. “I liked the day of outreach because it was my first time having an evangelical experience,” said BU student Mike Robertson, who was attending BWC for the first time. “The first women we talked to had just lost her baby. We ended up praying for her; it was a really heart-warming experience.” Reflecting back on the experience, he then added, “I definitely think I’ll come back next year.” A freshman at University of Connecticut, Dan Agabiti, came to the BWC just to get to know his peers and hoped to get closer to God, but the day of outreach impacted him the most. “I was inspired by everyone leading by example,” Dan said. “Other conferences talk about evangelism and then tell you go do it on your own. This was like a kick saying, ‘Go now while you’re here.’” The Day of Outreach is a great way for students to engage with Bostonians and make an impact in the city.

**\*\* See more exciting stories about The BWC on the back \*\***

# The Glory of Sex

This may be scary for many of us to admit, but not only are we living in a culture saturated with sex, this saturation is seeping into the lives of many young believers. We felt the best way to confront many of these issues was to be honest with our students. Ben Burns gave a message entitled "The Glory of Sex." He focused on God's perfect plan for sex, the punishment we face for disobedience (guilt, bondage to sin, distance from Christ), and God's provision to help us maintain sexual purity. After the talk there was a men's and women's panel, where students could anonymously ask questions to a panel of staff members (women to women, and men to men). After an hour the panels switched so that female students could ask questions to the men's panel, and male students could ask questions to the women's panel. Although this required a lot of vulnerability, trust, and maturity on everyone's part, it opened the flood gates for students to share about their struggles with physical intimacy, pornography, and same sex attraction in a safe place. We believe being upfront about the issues students face and equipping them to fight against it is the best thing we can do for them. We were thrilled that many students now have the opportunity to receive healing on issues they previously thought unspeakable.

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***"What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it? Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life." -Romans 6: 1-4***

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## Upcoming Events and Prayer Requests

\***Praise** that 15 students from UMass Boston attended the BWC! Pray that the momentum from the conference will continue to carry over into the new semester. Pray for the new semester (starting 1/25) and all the events we have planned for the students

\*Pray for the UMass student **leadership retreat** 1/30-1/31

\*Pray for our **Oasis Women's Conference**, Feb. 9-11th. Pray for me as I continue planning it and for the 70 women in our region attending.

\*Pray for our **"Girls Night Out" event**, Feb. 11, for all our female Boston Students. Speaker, Marian Jordan, author of Sex in the City Uncovered, will speak on issues girls face and how to overcome them. It is going to be a fun night of fellowship, worship, truth, and prizes. Please pray for non-Christians to attend this event as well!



*Lots of Love,  
Courtney*