

## Matt Williams - Campus Crusade for Christ

Building a Christ-centered Movement at Cal Poly

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Walking towards Dexter lawn on campus I notice a board titled "Secrets Unveiled." Curious, I walk over to read the notes posted on the board and find myself immersed into people's intimate secrets, pains, and deepest hurts. I feel my gut wrench when I read confessions like, "I thought about suicide every day for a year" or "I'm addicted to porn" and countless notes from girls longing for acceptance from their ex-boyfriends. I start thinking "Wow, it would be really powerful if we could share the love of Christ with these hurting people."



Me with Nicole on Dexter lawn

Just then I notice Nicole walking towards me; Nicole is the director of InterVarsity Christian Fellowship at Cal Poly. She starts explaining to me how this "grassroots" idea came to fruition through a few students who got connected to a movement (outwardly non-Christian) of people who understand and feel their need to confess their secrets to others as a way of healing and reconciliation. As I start reading more notes, I find a theme through most confessions: sexual abuse and brokenness. It was drastically overwhelming how many people confessed to things like sexual addiction, being abused or even raped, and hoping for happiness in current or previous relationships.

As I have been reading through the Psalms the past few months, I continue to see a theme that is portrayed through Israel's disobedience to God. Psalm 78:38 puts it well, "Their heart was not steadfast toward him; they were not faithful to his covenant. Yet he, being compassionate, atoned for their iniquity and did not destroy them..." Would you pray with me that although thousands of students at Cal Poly are hurting from their own disobedience and are dead in their sins, God would be rich in mercy and **make these students alive together with Christ**? Also, being immersed in the college campus is challenging on many fronts; we fight against the cultural norms of passivity, impure thoughts, and utter rebellion against the Most High God. Please pray that myself and other Christian men would continue to **fight for purity and be a light for the gospel** amidst a depraved and immoral culture that is following the course of this world.



Booth on Dexter lawn

## Hope That Does Not Disappoint

With every passing day here in San Luis Obispo (SLO) I continue to count my blessings and realize how gracious God is to me. He is so gracious to teach me about my deep character flaws and sin nature. I sense that God is using this season of life to prepare me for something greater, yet I do not know exactly what the Lord has in store. Pray for continued **endurance that produces character, which will produce hope** within me that will not disappoint.

- ask the Lord to provide two close friends that will challenge me in my walk with Jesus
- renewed vision from the Lord about how to walk with him deeper
- continued knowledge and wisdom to lead my relationship with Laura

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