



"I NEVER
KNEW GOD
WAS SO
PERSONAL.
THIS IS
AMAZING."

Left: getting lunch
with Ethan and Tim

Say hello to Ethan (left in photo), a freshman in a dorm Bible study within our movement. When we first met Ethan in his dorm room, he shared about becoming distanced with his former church but desiring to grow in his faith now that he is at college. Fast forward to a month later. I'm sitting across the table from Ethan and Tim (his Bible study leader) in the student union. We small talk for a while and then I ask Ethan about how the study is going. "Great! I'm loving it and the guys are really awesome," he responds. "Glad to hear it! What has been the best part?" I ask. *More on Ethan on the back side...*

With every year that passes, the Lord continues to grow this movement of simple college students into a genuine force to be utilized for taking the gospel to the nations. As I mentioned, Fall Retreat is always a weekend where many students make life-shaping decisions -- this year was no different. Our speaker, Matt Mikalatos, was **engaging and challenging our students to get serious about living out their faith** on campus and considering how to be a part of God's global plan for redemption. During the weekend we place students in discussion groups and allow them to encourage and teach one another. *Flip on over to read more about Fall Retreat...*

HOW ARE YOU DOING, MATT?

I'm glad to say that I've recently been building a friendship with Jonathan, another young single guy in my church. We've started to meet for lunch and encourage one another in life and our walks with God. Please pray that we will be vulnerable and see God's hand at work in our friendship. Also, pray for Jonathan as he is considering becoming a missionary pilot in the future. He currently works for FedEx but wants to use his vocation for a more direct kingdom impact. **Thanks for praying - this is definitely God's grace in my life!**



me and Jonathan checking out his plane

Oct/Nov 2011



**MATT WILLIAMS
SERVING WITH CRU**

I daily spend myself for God's kingdom by winning students to Christ, building them in their faith, and sending them as kingdom laborers.

"PRAYER IS THE GREATER WORK."

- Pray for freshmen in the dorms to continue seeking out truth
- Holy Spirit to stir in hearts a passion for missions, make Cal Poly a greater sending base
- my heart to be content with where God has me
- increasing financial support needs and trust in God alone

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“Ethan” continued...

“Well, last night we had a new guy from India who had never heard about Jesus.” Ethan goes on to explain how their new friend sat through the whole study just listening and taking it in. After sitting for an hour and not saying a word, Sonny gets up to leave. But before leaving he stops and says, “Wow, this is amazing. I’ve never heard people talk about God in such a personal way. I’ve got so many questions and I’ll be back.” **That is what gets me out of bed in the morning -- to invest in students who will bring the good news of Jesus to those in need.** Even writing this I am overtaken by the fact that the Lord uses us to build His kingdom. Thank you for being a part of it. I seriously couldn’t do this without your partnership!

CURRENTLY READING

I just finished reading *A Million Ways to Die* by Rick James. It was a great read about the daily ways we can die to ourselves and find true joy and life by letting Christ take control. I recommend it!

Any thoughts for what I should read next? Email me with your suggestions. Really, I want to hear! :)

“Fall Retreat” continued...

Students always comment that their favorite part of the weekend is being in the “d-group” and getting to confess sin, some for the first time, and love on each other by listening and praying for those in the group. Another highlight of the weekend was getting to skype (internet video chat) with the STINT team in East Asia. Many students were encouraged and challenged to see that their peers are able to spend a year in another country for the sake of making Jesus famous, which is causing many to wrestle with going in the future themselves! Thanks for praying for the weekend. God answered so many of our prayers and more. And we had over 500 signed up a week before, which made logistics SO much easier. I love that our God cares about the details.

WHAT’S UP NEXT FOR ME & HOW TO PRAY

As we head into the holidays, I look forward to seeing old friends, going skiing, and recuperating from the busy quarter. I’ll also be traveling back to Columbia to spend Christmas with family. You can pray that my time there is rich and life-giving. Also, pray for **physical rest for my body as I’m working through an injury** while training for a marathon -- which, sadly, I can no longer run. Thanks for your partnership this year. We are on such an amazing journey and I’m blessed to have you with me.

Laboring with you,



Left: over 20 students came to the STINT interest lunch at fall retreat!

Right: teaching about purity and relationships at our fall retreat men’s time



Giving every student the opportunity to hear the *good news* of Jesus Christ.