

He Makes Everything Beautiful In It's Time....

ECC 3:11

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I'm not just here to hang out with my Christian friends !!

These were the words of Rich, one of our students who has only been here for the last month or so after transferring to RPI. He transferred from a Christian school where it seems he experienced (though not always the experience of everyone at Christian colleges) little to no desire cultivated to reach the lost. He found his purpose to reach the lost was renewed when at our Fall Retreat 3 weeks ago called the "Upstate Fall Getaway" at Seneca Lake in western New York. At the conference he was able to worship God with other Campus Crusade students from all over Upstate New York, pray with others from his campus, learn to rest in the Lord, and to dream about what God will do through him and our Christ-following student movement on campus. His vision was revitalized and the bigger picture was clear: It's not just about hanging out with Christian friends, but in Rich's words: "I'm here not just to learn but more importantly to reach the Lost on this campus." I (John) have gotten to know him in the last month and have watched him grow in one of many small groups on campus. Recently, we have been discussing what it means to "notice our way into spiritual conversations" with lost friends we meet and see everyday around us. When I was an engineer in the corporate world, it took me a few years before I listened to God's reminder of my purpose in that office/factory: to reach the lost around me (meeting people on their spiritual journey and encouraging them to move closer to God's Kingdom). I'm thankful that Rich is learning this before he graduates — Long before I figured it out ! =>



Getting Ready To Knock on Doors and follow up with Surveys @ RPI



Housing Table at Fall Getaway!



Students fill out Spiritual Interest Surveys @ RPI

"It's A Relationship!"

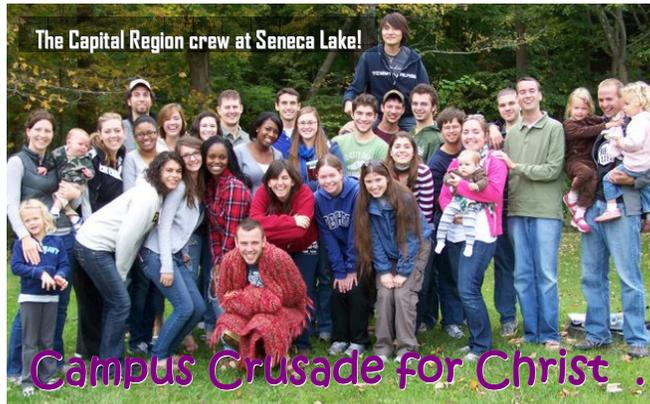
One of my favorite parts of beginning classes at these area schools is the chance we have to talk to MANY freshman and returning students that we wouldn't normally cross paths with. This fall I had the chance to meet a Sophomore named Karissa. Karissa normally wouldn't have approached our table where we welcomed Freshmen with free bottles and surveys except that she looked twice at the table, recognized one of the girls standing with me, and then we invited her to come over! She circled yes on a question that asks if we can contact them and here's how she responded when I had the privilege of sharing my journey of meeting Christ: "Yeah.. I've always believed in God and prayed to him, but after hearing you talk.. I'm realizing it's a relationship with him that I've been missing!" Talk about an exciting day at the College of St. Rose! This is a perfect example of why I love what I do! The small group this semester at St. Rose has been full of moments like this. Girls are growing closer to Jesus as a result!

Praises:

- We saw 3 students pray with us to trust Christ this Fall! 2 students at RPI and 1 at UAlbany!
- We made it through the craziness of life and schedules the first couple weeks of schools starting!
- We gave away about 600 Aluminum Water Bottles to Freshmen this year on UAlbany, RPI, St. Rose, and Sage College at Albany campuses!
- We saw about 200 students from all over Upstate NY gather at Seneca Lake, NY at the Fall Getaway Sept 24th-26th! (and we even saw some great community amongst the students- from HVCC, Sage of Albany, RPI, Siena, UAlbany, and St. Rose!)
- This Fall we have started a small group at Albany College of Pharmacy (ACP) !!!
- It's FINALLY official! We have finally been recognized as an organization on campus at HVCC(Hudson Valley Community College)

Prayer Requests:

- For more of our students to be passionate about inviting outsiders into small group communities and (eventually) the Kingdom of God.
- For our staff team as we transition through one of our team members moving (he is getting married to another person on staff in Boston)
- For direction as two students consider interning with us after graduation in December
- This semester we're doing separate Ladies and Mens Nights- pray for wisdom, vulnerability, and authentic community. (3rd Thursdays of month)
- Pray for wisdom and powerful life changing words for Ellen as she speaks at a health conference at St. Rose in the AM of November 3rd.
- Pray for John's broken finger and hurting back.
- Pray for our financial support as we need to find additional financial partners, that God will provide.
- Pray for us to love each other well in our marriage!



The Capital Region crew at Seneca Lake!

Campus Crusade for Christ .. REAL LIFE in the Capital Region !