May the Lord make your love increase and overflow for each other and for everyone else, just as ours does for you. [1 Thessalonians 3:12]
CAMPUS OVERFLOW

3 Love and Relationships  
by Bori Kang

4 Plasticity, Christianity, and Happiness  
by Jungha Yi GSN

5 Fall Retreat and full rest in God  
by Clara Kim

6 Beginnings Overflow – Photos

7 Fall Retreat Overflow – Photos

8 The Freshman Fifteen: Redux  
by Irene Chang

9 Interview with Will Kang  
by Konny Huh

10 Small Group experiences Overflow  
by Christine Chung

11 Big God. Small Group.

12 Freshman Overflow – Photos

13 Sophomore Overflow – Photos

14 Vision Conference 2006

15 Junior Overflow – Photos

16 Senior Overflow - Photos

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies.  
You anoint my head with oil;  
my cup overflows.  
[Psalm 23:5]

A full color version of Campus Overflow is available at  
www.columbia.edu/cu/kccc/media.html

Deep Focus presents

OVERFLOW

COMMITTEE OVERFLOW

112 Praise Team

113 Barnabas

114 Deep Focus

115 Daepyodan

WORLD OVERFLOW

20 The Pleasures of God  
by Paul Yoo

21 Casting Crowns: Lifesong  
by Brian Kim

22 Selfish Selflessness  
by Konny Huh

23 Win the Campus Today  
Win the World Tomorrow.

24 An Inheritance fit for a king  
by Sang Mi Lee GSN

25 List of Local Churches

26 Experience God.  
Experience VISION.  
by Will Kang
Love and Relationships
by Bori Kang ‘06

“No matter what I say, what I believe, and what I do, I am bankrupt without love.” [1 Corinthians 13:3b (Msg)]

It’s November. The leaves are falling, it’s getting a little colder, and we look forward to Thanksgiving break, and soon thereafter, winter break. How did you spend the first half of your semester? Was it all that you hoped for? Did you do the things that you wanted to do? Did you really... love?

I know that time is short, and some of you may be thinking that even four years isn’t enough time for people to really “know each other.” Do you believe that?

Well, all I can say is that time really does fly. And it is important to make the best of your time here in college. I’m sure that you’ve all heard this before, but I just want to emphasize the importance of relationships and learning to truly love others during your most crucial time of growth.

I personally learned a lot of things a little late in the game. I came into college feeling like I knew what I was doing. I knew exactly how I wanted to spend my time, and I knew exactly where I wanted to go with my life even after college. But I was so silly. I knew nothing. I knew nothing because many times I was selfish with my personal schedule and my own agenda. I needed to make sure that I would succeed regardless of what it may take to get there. It was all I, I, me, me, me. Where in my life was the God that I served? Did I honor His plans and His will? And more importantly, did I really LOVE His people?

“Love should be your top priority, primary objective, and greatest ambition. Love is not a good part of your life; it’s the most important part. The Bible says ‘Let love be your greatest aim’.”

While reading some books and passages over the course of this past year, I thought long and hard about what I wanted to share with you guys. And during this process of personal growth, I’ve come to realize the importance of relationships and the need to love those near and far from us.

But how are we able to deepen our relationships with others and express our love toward one another? Well, to put it simply, it’s your T-I-M-E. Woah, I know that many of you are thinking, “Man, I don’t have time for this stuff, I don’t even have time to study for my stinky ORGO exam. I barely even have time to sleep!” And I’m sure many of us have felt this way one time or another. But keep in mind that grades, jobs, money, and everything else won’t last forever. However, relationships and love are eternal. But they take time, which is your precious gift from God—something you cannot make more of or get back. The greatest gift you can give someone is your time.

My father once told me, “Bori, this second that just passed, as well as the one that just passed again, and again...will NEVER return. Remember that, and never waste a second of the precious life that God has granted you.” Even though I heard this for most of my life, it didn’t really “click” until I started to truly assess and think about what I was doing with my time.

I know that I am still struggling, learning, and trying, but there is a goal in mind for me. The goal is to love and to place relationships with others above: that A in class, the Yankees/Mets/Knicks/Giants game, my favorite brie cheese, and yes, even snowboarding. Because one day, all of these will fade, but love and relationships will last forever.

There is so much potential for an explosion of amazing things here at Columbia. I just hope you will help it happen by investing in things and people by looking at life with an eternal perspective.

“...The only thing that counts is faith expressing itself through love.” [Galatians 5:6]

<3 always, Bori

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1Warren, Rick. The Purpose Driven Life: What On Earth Am I Here For?
Plasticity, Christianity, and Happiness
by Jungha Yi GSN

The lyrics to this song by Casting Crowns moved me deeply, probably because the words describe how we are or how we have been. We deceive others and ourselves by putting on masks we think will bring us acceptance, not realizing the truth that we are all broken people.

During different moments in my life I find myself in two situations. At times, I am the happy plastic person, allowing the world to shape my behavior, caring about how others perceive me, striving for social acceptance. But God is light. Just as physical light allows us to see, God allows us to see the truth behind the masquerade. He also gives us the security to expose our weakness, hurts, and struggles so that we can be restored by the Body of Christ.

At other times, I am the person who either encourages others to be real or drives them to be happy plastic people. But I am striving to understand the actions of others—not judging them by my moral standards, not placing my expectations on them—but instead learning that loving is accepting and not understanding.

God uses me, you, us, the body, as instruments for fostering a loving community where we can expose ourselves as weak and frail and be free to unmask ourselves. What do you do when you are in pain or are ashamed of where you are? What do you do when you know a brother or sister has fallen away or is suffering?

Growing up, one of my favorite childhood stories was "The Velveteen Rabbit." The unforgettable power of love that makes a ratty, torn-up, stuffed animal real and precious parallels the power of God's love that has made each of us, a broken hearted generation, real and precious. Let's put off all falsehood and be "real" with one another; let's help each other be "real."

“So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from rivalry or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus,...” [Philippians 2:1-5]
Fall Retreat and full rest in God

by Clara Kim '07

For anyone who enters God’s rest also rests from his own work, just as God did from his. Let us therefore, make every effort to enter that rest. [Hebrews 4: 10-11]

I feel that God guarded my heart so that I would experience a true “retreat” in Him. By definition the word retreat means:

1. (n) An act of withdrawing from what is difficult, dangerous, or disagreeable
2. (n) A place of privacy and safety: a refuge.
3. (v) To take the retreat(n)

Retreats usually meant a packed schedule that included getting up early, meeting new people, intense Bible studies, and hours of prayers. The blessings tended to come when I had squeezed out all my energy and finally started to depend on God to give me strength when I could not possibly go on on my own. This retreat was the opposite.

Speaking for myself, I slacked off in three ways. First, I woke up around 9am, which is “sleeping in” for a retreat. Second, in my small group, I was only with people I already knew. I have to push myself to meet new people and get to know them, and it creates stress. That stress in getting to know new brothers and sisters always turns out to be a blessing, it takes up a lot of my energy. But this retreat and the situations allowed me to get to know the people I already knew better and strengthen those relationships.

Lastly, because we could not pray for ourselves but could only ask for prayers, I didn’t pray as much as or with the same intensity as I usually do. This made me see how self-centered I had been even in my faith. This retreat was not about what I did. I learned to have true rest in God and to take joy in that because he receives us as we are.

Doing late morning quiet time with Melinda Kim and Hyekyung Jung in the beautifully lit living room area, I was blessed to see God’s works. The entire first semester of last year, I was desperately praying for Christian friends. I came back to school from the summer when I first met God, but I felt that there was no one here who could keep me accountable and with whom I could share. Now, I was doing quiet time and praying with these two sisters and worshipping as a part of this body of Christ. The full rest in God gave me a perspective to see myself and God’s blessings in my life.

“I learned to have true rest in God and to take joy in that because he receives us as we are.”

This past summer I went on a mission trip in the southern part of Korea with the college fellowship at my church. I was placed in a group of people I didn’t know. There were about ten people in my group. At the time, it felt overwhelming to have to get to know them, work with them, and focus on God all in a week.

Coming to this retreat, I was worried about finding that balance between my relationship with people and my focus on God. This time, however, I felt that He took care of everything and was asking me to focus my entire heart on Him. By doing so, I realized that it was not about finding the balance, but that once my heart was set on Him, then everything, including relationships followed.

On the second day of the retreat, Pastor Rich said: “Brotherly love is not based on action but identity that we are a community and a family.” I struggle with praying for my friends, because so many people are in need of prayers whether they ask for it or not, and I always felt that I never have enough time to just pray for those I’m close with.

Being prayed for by my friends, soonjang, and GSN at the retreat, I was humbled to see once again how God worked. I was reminded to set my heart back on God rather than worrying about what I can do on my own, for everything is already under His control.

This retreat prepared me for this semester. Coming out of midterms, especially, I see that I once again fell into my old habit of trying to find a balance between God and other things. How easily do I forget to focus on God! Now, however, I know from the fall retreat that His love is constant. During my spiritual highs and lows, His love for me is always in its highest, and I simply have to find retreat in Him for rest.
Loving and supporting one another. Soonjangs and boo-soonjangs at the leadership retreat work toward strong bonds and soft hearts.

Freshmen welcoming dinner at Dallas BBQ. Joel Yu, Jena Song, Jessica Lee, Debbie Yom, Esther Kim, Bori Kang, Joo lee Song, Dana Kim, Eunice Ko, Jonathan Sapp, and Konny Huh.

Rebekah Chang, Jin Wang, Paul Yoo, and Brian Kim pointing fingers at Meet and Greet.

First large group. Bottom: Ben Koo and Richard Chun. Top: Will Kang

Kenneth Choi, Joe Hong and Eddie Kim ponder at a leadership meeting.

Jumping and rejoicing at Fall Retreat. Deborah Ma, Israel Jung, Esther Kim, Konny Huh, Mee Ae Park (FIT), and Jin Wang.

One body. One balance. Konny Huh, Esther Kim, Angela Oh, and Dana Kim.

The body is a unit, though it is made up of many parts; and though all its parts are many, they form one body. So it is with Christ. [1 Corinthians 12:12]

Though one may be over-powered, two can defend themselves. A cord of three strands is not quickly broken. [Ecclesiastes 4:12]

Brian Kim, Melinda Kim, Will Kang, Eunice Ko, and Billy Kim.

A full color version of Campus Overflow is available at www.columbia.edu/cu/kccc/media.html
The Freshman Fifteen: Redux
by Irene Chang ‘06

I’m sure that I’m not the wisest of all the seniors in our class, nor do I think that I possess much wisdom to begin with...But I have to say that college has been really great in terms of experience and just learning new things. So instead of boring you with my tidbits of knowledge in some long incoherent article, I would like to share with you what I’ve learned during the past few years in this dear place where you’ll grow…and laugh…and learn...

1. The number one rule: If you want to get some real studying done, don’t go to Butler 4th floor. If you’re going just to “study” (get up, walk around every ten minutes to say hi to the KCCC member who just walked in), then go for it. It’s also a great place to cultivate relationships... as you will learn to empathize with people over the ridiculous amount of work that you have to do.

2. Join a small group. Small groups are an integral way for you to be connected to a smaller body of Christ. It’s great for accountability, free food (if your small group leader is rich), times of sharing, and Bible study. Fun, fun, fun!

3. While we’re on the topic of accountability—first, get yourselves familiar with the definition of it. ACCOUNTABILITY means vulnerability, rawness, openness, and brokenness. Get the point? In order for accountability to work, you gotta know what it means to be REAL with the other person. None of that surface level stuff. It requires both H & H (not hot and holy)—but Humility and Honesty. (While we’re on this note, I have to say thanks to my accountability partner Bori Kang for allowing me to be completely honest without fear of judgment. And thanks for your honesty as well. I got you in check, girl!)

4. Get plugged into a church. As much as I love our Thursday night large groups, they should never take the place of an actual Sunday worship in the house of God. Go to a church where you can both be blessed AND be a blessing (that means serving, serving, serving).

5. Large groups should be a time where you can come and have fellowship with your fellow brothers and sisters. It should be a FUN time. Come early, get to know some new faces, help carry praise team equipment afterwards and be a blessing onto others.

6. Buy food for other people. Freshmen, disregard this statement, unless it’s for your peers. Everyone loves free food. Use food as a means of getting to know people and hanging out with them. Some of the best conversations I’ve ever had were with people over breakfast at Hewitt Dining Hall or just grabbing a slice at Pinnacle.

7. Try getting an exercise buddy. They say that our metabolism starts dying as we get older... So this means that we should start working out NOW, right? Did you guys see Joe Hong’s biceps in that Deep Focus video? Or wait, were those Konny’s biceps? Hehe. Ask one of them to be your personal trainer.

8. Start your papers at least 2 days before the actual due date, not the night before (which I am guilty of doing). I’m an English major, and on average I gotta crank out a paper a week, sometimes two. And since freshman year I’ve developed the wretched habit of starting my papers the night before they’re due, skipping class the next day to finish my paper, finishing RIGHT on the dot, printing it out, and running to class with my papers flying in my hands. This does not look very good to the professor. On top of which you’re still wearing the same smelly clothes from the day before, and you still haven’t brushed your teeth yet. Yikes.

9. Go on missions. I went to Japan with KCCC and Nicaragua with my church during the summer after my sophomore year. I got to know God in such an intimate and personal level. It’s an experience that cannot be summed up in words. You have to go through with it for yourself.

10. If your main reason for not wanting to go on missions is because you want an internship, then try getting one during the school year. Every college has a career website with plenty of resources. I’ve had some amazing internships in the past, such as being a production assistant and working on a Fisher Price baby video series, working in the editorial department of two magazines, and I’m currently working at an advertising agency. I got all of these internships through Barnard’s Career Development website. Hurry up! They’re starting to hire interns for the spring. Go look now!

11. Call your parents frequently. Trust me, they miss you. And they want to call you really badly, but they’re afraid that you won’t pick up because you’re too busy SCREENING their calls (tsktsk). Be nice to them. Send them a card. Or some cookies.

12. Go invest in some sweatshirts, sweatpants, and rain boots.
Forget the rule of “dress to impress.” When winter comes and the wind chill factor makes every nerve in your body tingle, all you’ll want is to be nice and comfy in some warm clothing. And yes, you can’t forget the rain boots, ESPECIALLY when you’re trudging your way from East Campus all the way to Barnard, or vice versa; your socks get SO stinking wet and smelly! Go purchase some rain boots and no more wet socks, baby!

Some financial advice: Don’t sign up for multiple credit cards. Credit follows you wherever you go. Pay your bills on time (send in the payment at least 5 days before the due date), and try to cover more than double your minimum amount.

Record your memories/thoughts/prayers in a journal everyday. I’ve been doing this since I was a little kid, and it’s so amazing when you look back and you see how much you’ve grown, the different people that God specifically placed in your life at that moment in time, and all the prayer requests that God has been so faithful in answering. And not to mention that college goes by in a flash. Take time to jot some stuff down that made you happy today. You’ll look back on it with a smile. I promise. =)

And last but not least: Love, love, love! Let your love be visible to others. Love with a sacrificial and caring heart, a smile, a cup of hot chocolate on a cold day, or with a warm hug when running into someone randomly at Butler 4th floor. People need love. You need love. I need love. God loves, and He commands us to do the same. “Love covers over a multitude of sins” [1 Peter 4:8]. That’s right. It all begins with the heart. “Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God” [1 John 4:7].

Now with that said, I’m probably not going to have an opportunity to address the whole KCCC family like this again, so I just want to say that I’ve had the time of my life here with the Columbia KCCC family. And I sincerely love you guys.

Okay, I know some of my “wisdom” was common sense and a bit cheesy. But I know you guys loved it. Muhahaha...Here’s just one more thing that I learn every single day—invest in people. Invest in relationships. They’re the only things that you’ll take with you after you graduate.

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The Freshmen Eleven at the 2005 Fall Retreat. Eunice Ko, Jessica Lee, Jessica Kim, Mee Ae Park (FIT), Janet Hwang, Esther Kim, Jenny Kim, Deborah Ma, Dana Kim, Jena Song, and Jin Wang.
Interview with Will Kang
by Konny Huh ‘08

I don’t like going on vacations. But if I did, I’d go with my wife.

Part II: The Worship Team: More than Enough

Where is the weirdest place that you’ve found yourself singing praise songs to yourself? When I was younger, I used to hum praise songs in my head when I was bowling and I thought that it made me bowl better.

How did you come to be praise leader of CU KCCC praise band? Well during sophomore year, during second semester, I approached Bobby Oh, (he was our staff back then), and I asked if I could join the worship team. And so I did join the worship team and at the end of my sophomore year he asked me if I could lead it.

What is your personal definition of praise and worship? It kind of goes back to what I said about Romans 12: not just being about singing songs but about offering our bodies as living sacrifices.

How do you prepare for each KCCC Large Group? When I pick a song set, I think about if there is any specific theme that I want to sing about. And I also put thought into how one song will flow to the next, not just musically but in terms of meaning, what we want to say to God.

Who is your favorite praise leader? Why? Man! I’m split! I have 3 favorite praise leaders. I think in terms of song writing, Matt Redman because his songs always cut to the chase of worship. In terms of presence as a worship leader, Chris Tomlin because he is very dynamic worship leader, full of energy. And in terms of guitar playing, who I try to emulate the most is Shane Bernard. I even try to hold my pick like him, hahahaha.
What is your favorite praise song and why?
I remember during missions with Big Dream, I would be playing this one song incessantly. “Holy is the Lord,” by Chris Tomlin, because that is such a simple worship song that is only about worship.

Where did the name of the worship team, “More than Enough,” come from?
I actually saw it on one of my friend’s xangas. She was describing her experience as part of this praise ministry in Honduras, and she said that one of the lessons she learned is that God is more than enough.

What does it take to be a member of “More than Enough”? It takes a desire to worship God and to help others to worship God, and also it involves taking that step to play more than just music but to live out a life of worship.

How do you envision “More than Enough” in the future after you graduate?
I envision it being a praise team where people can be really be used by God and serve willingly and grow closer together.

Part III: A Deeper Look

What do you look for in a woman? A girl who I can feel comfortable around; musical or athletic ability is definitely a plus. Haha, and of course a woman who seeks after God.

What is your greatest strength? Staying steady. Not being too emotional.
Weakness? Being too passive

How would you describe your small group? I love my small group, and I think that everyone has come a long way and that we’ve grown an attachment to each other in many different aspects of life besides the ministry.

If you had to relate the members of your small group to the characters of “Friends” who would be who? David: Ross – because that guy is always studying and he loves learning!

Billy: Chandler – because he’s more like dry in his humor.
Ben: Monica – because he likes having things organized.
Brian: Rachel – because he’s easygoing.
Myself (Will): Phoebe – because one episode she described herself as the puppeteer of the group. And she made hand motions like a puppeteer (Will does hand motions)

What are you going to miss the most when you graduate? I think I will miss the suite the most. Especially living next to John Won.

What is your guilty pleasure? Going to JJ’s.

What are your plans after graduation? I’m hoping to work for a few years, and then perhaps go to some kind of graduate school.

What is one thing you must do before you graduate Columbia? I want to go to some kind of Columbia sporting event because I’ve never been to one. And I also just want to invest time into building strong relationships with people.

Will Kang, Billy Kim, and Ben Koo.

Missing from pictures: David Oh.

It’s the overflow
Of a forgiven soul
And now we’ve seen You, God
Our hearts cannot stay silent
-Dancing Generation by Matt Redman-
Jesus answered, “Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks the water I give him will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life.” — John 4:13-14
September and October Birthdays! Barnabas Committee and KCCC send birthday wishes to Bori Kang (21), Daniel Lee (22), Paul Yoo (21), Jessica Kim (18), Jena Song (18), Jessica Lee (18), Julia Yu (21), Debbie Yom (22), and Kenneth Choi (20).
Deep Focus is Columbia KCCC’s media ministry. Deep Focus was officially established fall semester of the year 2005 with a great vision to magnify the grandeur, the creativity, the humor, the sincerity, and the passion of God.

In a musty, cluttered Wien dorm room during the month of September, two Columbia students in the media ministry searched through the indices of the Holy Bible and perused film text books in hopeful efforts of finding inspiration for an official name for Columbia KCCC’s media ministry. And sooner or later, the students were guided by the Holy Spirit through the alphabetical list of film terminology to the term that perfectly embodied God’s vision and purpose for Columbia University KCCC media ministry: Deep Focus.

“Deep Focus” is a cinematographic term used in the film industry that is defined as follows: a use of the camera lens and lighting keeping both close and distant planes in focus at the same time. And just as the cinematographic technique of deep focus simultaneously captures the close and distant, Deep Focus aims to capture the totality of God’s glory and the passion of His children for the multiplication of His kingdom through media.

Deep Focus’ mission statement and the foundation of all Deep Focus productions are products of the Word of God:

“So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen. For what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.” [2 Corinthians 4:18]

Knowing that everything on this earth is temporary, we desire to serve our LORD with an eternal perspective. Deep Focus strives to showcase our precious brothers and sisters in the family of the ministry as well as share about the many events and activities that will take place during the year so that everyone will be able to take part in the many blessings that God provides for us on our campus and in New York City.

Our LORD is our Creator, and all Deep Focus projects are created by Him; the members of Deep Focus are merely messengers pointing our brothers and sisters to salvation through Jesus Christ. Deep Focus would like to thank all of our brothers and sisters for their patience, cooperation, and encouragement during the production of all Deep Focus projects. And Deep Focus praises God for giving us an ambitious vision, joy during every step of striving toward the vision, and faith and perseverance to realize His vision.

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. [Romans 15:13]

By His Grace Alone,
Deep Focus <<>>
DAEOPYODAN

GET YOURS TODAY!!

All Star Daeppyodan

COMES IN THREE COLORS!!

CHRISTINE  

EDDIE  

BORI

A full color version of this page is available at www.columbia.edu/cu/kccc/media.html
Reflecting back upon my 3.5 years here at Columbia, I realize that many of my fondest memories have involved my small groups. My first year, I was the only freshman in my small group. In fact, out of the seven girls, there were 4 seniors, 2 juniors, and me, the lone freshman, and as a result, my sisters truly spoiled me. My freshman small group was an amazing experience, and my older sisters showed me what sisterly love is. The Bible studies were helpful, but more importantly, the fellowship and the sisterhood that were formed allowed me to experience God’s love.

Through the body worship performances, ice skating trips, and of course the weekly small group meetings, God really allowed me to make myself vulnerable in front of my sisters and receive His love and blessings. For the past 3 years, small group has always been my weekly haven from the crazy week filled with meetings and work. Personally, it has been such a blessing to meet amazing sisters, share my struggles, learn the amazing Word of God, and receive and give support.

Last year, my junior year, I felt that God was asking me to serve as a small group leader. So this year, after talking to fellow sisters about their experiences as a small group leader in KCCC and asking for God’s guidance, I am now serving as a small group leader for three beautiful sisters, Emily Park, Julia Yu, and Jennifer Kim. Frankly, I did not exactly know what to expect from leading and was extremely excited yet also anxious. Often times, I worried about not being able to adequately serve the girls. But God has been awesome. I believe in the power of prayer, and God has been answering my requests about my small group. Despite my shortcomings, He has led me with the Holy Spirit, and I truly feel God’s presence in our small group.

As a leader, small group has been such a humbling experience. The girls have taught me so much about accountability and love. Each week, as we share our prayer requests, struggles, victories, and questions about our faith, I realize how real our God is. Small group is not simply about Bible study, but it is really a place of sharing, where God humbles you in front of your fellow brothers and sisters and breaks you down and teaches you the importance of accountability and unity. I think small group is so special because it allows us to be real and vulnerable in front of our brothers and sisters, and through the sharing and the study of the Word together, we are able to confront our questions, challenges, and doubts. And of course, it is a time of fellowship filled with lots of happy tears, smiles, laughter, and good food!

For those of you who are not plugged into a small group, I really encourage you to join one. I know that God will blow you away with His blessings. And lastly, I just want to thank my girls for giving me the chance to be your small group leader. You girls are so amazing, and I have been blessed so much this semester from our fellowship, and I pray that God will continue to bless you.
Campus Overflow

Experience a big God in a Small Group

For more information, contact:
Christine Kwak [cyk2102]
Eddie Kim [etk2103]

A full color version of this is available at www.columbia.edu/cu/kccc/media.html
“...and they were amazed.” Dana Kim, Deborah Ma, and Jenny Kim.

Dana Kim, Mike Kim, John Won (senior), and Ben Kim.

Freshmen and sophomore girls at EC Funhouse!

Playing mind games at the Fall Retreat.

Trick-or-treating in the EC Suite, dressed as the EC suite.


Janet Hwang, Christina Chai, Jenny Kim, and Samantha Song at Meet and Greet.

Back: Jenny Kim and Samantha Song. Front: Michelle Sung (sophomore) and Jena Song.
I want it that way.” The Sophomore guys fall for the Sophomore girls at the fall retreat, but the girls only have eyes for Jesus. Together, the girls and guys decide in their hearts that they want it Jesus’ way.

Konny Huh and Brian Kim enjoy each other’s music before Gethsemane.

“Like a waterfall, You fill my heart and overflow. Like a candle flame, You light my way and lead me as I go. Spirit overflow, let me overflow.”

-Overflow by Chris Tomlin-

A full color version of OVERFLOW is available at www.columbia.edu/cu/kccc/media.html
The Pleasures of God - Book Review

by Paul Yoo ‘06

I believe that the intensity of your love for God can only be proportional to your understanding of who he is. The true worshiper must worship in spirit and truth. If your vision of God is small, then your affections toward him will be lukewarm at best. It only makes sense. How can you love something so deeply if you only have a simple understanding of it? But if you believe in a God who is supremely great and sovereign and awesome, then it will overflow into utmost devotion and love for him because he is worthy of all your affections. That is why I love the Pleasures of God, by John Piper.

The portrait of God that is painted in this book is based on rock-solid biblical truth. And it has expanded my vision of God enormously. Not only has my mind been stretched by the deep theology, but my heart has been even overpowered with the knowledge of what an awesome God we serve. The scope of the book is so deep and clear that a short review does not capture the far reaches of God’s perfections to which my heart and mind have been opened to. Still, I would like to give you a glimpse of the vision of God that Piper shares.

The book is based on this truth: “the worth and excellency of a soul is to be measured by the object of its love.” As Piper says, “the true dimensions of a soul are seen in its delights.” To know someone, then, is to know what he loves. And in order to know the greatness of our God, we must understand what are the pleasures of God.

What are the pleasures of God? First and foremost, God ultimately loves his own glory above all else. He delights in His own infinite perfections that are manifested in his Son, Jesus Christ. “He is supremely happy in the fellowship of the Trinity.” Simply put, God delights in being God. He is like an inexhaustible, overflowing fountain because in himself he has all fullness of joy. He does not need us or anything else as if it were a deficiency, for God is self-sufficient. He is also the creator, and he does as he pleases.

God cannot be cornered into doing something that he does not ultimately delight in. That is what we mean when we say he is sovereign. God is neither frustrated nor thwarted by anything, for “all that he pleases, he does” [Psalm 115:3]. Out of God’s self-sufficiency and sovereignty flow his pleasures in creating the universe, spreading his fame, choosing a people, and bruising his Son. God delights in all these because they uphold his glory and exalt his name.

In chapter 5, titled “The Pleasure of God in Election,” John Piper presents his reformed view of predestination and explains why it holds true to biblical truth as well as upholds his glory. The elect (or God’s chosen people, predestined for heaven) are not chosen because they are good in themselves or are any better than other people. It is only in the freedom of God’s sovereignty and his love that surpasses knowledge that he chooses to call people as his own.

Yet, this poses a problem because two seemingly opposite themes are presented. On the one hand, God supremely desires to exalt and uphold his own glory. Yet, in his electing love he chooses wicked sinners who dishonor that very glory. These seemingly contradicting themes are resolved through “God’s pleasure in bruising his Son,” Jesus Christ.

God is perfect and complete in himself, and he does not need us to complete his fullness and is not deficient without us. Rather we are deficient, he is self-sufficient. Yet, out of the supremely great heart of love with which he loved us, in his all-sufficiency he freely gives the gift of salvation to his people through the sacrifice of his Son, to the praise of the glory of his grace. God is not cornered into some technicality to give us the gift of salvation because we fulfill the requirements of believing in the name of Jesus or because he needs us in any way. The gospel is not centered on man. Rather, he is the center of the gospel. In his all-sufficiency and freedom he chose us because of his great heart of love, all for his glory. The gospel is good news because it is a gospel of grace! What an awesome God we serve!

The final few chapters deal with the human responses that fulfill our desires while also glorifying God. These are the responses that God delights in because they align with his supreme desire to uphold his own glory while expressing his great heart of love for his people. God takes pleasure in doing good to
those who hope in him, because it exalts his name.

When I read this chapter, I was blown away by this verse: “The LORD, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will be quiet in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing” [Zephaniah 3:17].

To think that a holy and sovereign God could take delight in me—one who has dishonored and rebelled against him time and time again—was staggering. That he bursts forth into song because he rejoices to do me good. Honestly, I struggled to believe this for a long time. Yet, Piper expounded on truth upon truth to break open for me the indescribably good news that the God of the universe delights in me and rejoices to do me good—not because of anything in myself, but because I bank all my hope in him.

Once again, God is the center. “The LORD takes pleasure in those who fear him, in those who hope in his steadfast love” [Psalm 147:11]. The Lord also delights in prayer and obedience because they are the expressions of our hope in God as the only source of life and joy. The truths that Piper lays out in these chapters will shape your views on prayer and obedience.

These truths are only a touch on the surface of God’s infinitely holy and perfect character that is expressed through his holy pleasures. As Piper says, “God’s worth and excellency are without measure, for the object of his love is infinitely glorious.” John Piper expresses this with a clear flow of thought and a great passion for God.

While the book is not what you would call an easy read, it is well worth the mental rigor and long hours spent. I can definitely say it has brought my relationship with God to new levels and impacted my life. I heartily recommend this book to anyone who desires to know more deeply and love the mighty and sovereign and self-sufficient and loving and merciful and infinitely awesome God.

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Casting Crowns
“Lifesong” Album Review
by Brian Kim ‘08

This album is easily my new favorite and definitely a must buy (or must download, legally of course!). And trust me I don’t say this about every half-decent album out there. It’s a title reserved only for those albums with touching lyrics and more than one hit song that I can listen to on repeat for weeks at a time while pretending to study in Butler. This position has been held by such classics as Chris Tomlin’s Arriving, Kutless’ Strong Tower, the freshman, self-titled release of Casting Crowns, and most recently Switchfoot’s Beautiful Letdown. As good as these other albums are, I must say that this album really takes the crown.

But before I say anything about the album itself, I think it’s important to understand the group a bit. They are a relatively new group that came out with its debut album, Casting Crowns, in 2003. The album was an instant hit, selling more than a million albums, with such hit songs as “Who Am I,” “Voice of Truth,” “If We are the Body,” and many others that were frequently quoted on my xanga.

They are a band that began in the church and actually still is based at Eagle’s Landing First Baptist Church right outside of Atlanta, where they are all active members, and leader Mark Hall remains the Youth Pastor after 14 years. Their devotion to the church and to ministering to the lost is very obvious in their music. In an interview with “Christianity Today,” Hall says that Casting Crowns is only third on his list of priorities after Church and Family.

To get a better idea of what kind of person Hall is, we should know that he has struggled with dyslexia throughout his life. However, Mark does not look at it as a weakness, but rather as an opportunity to put all his faith and trust in Christ. He is steadfast in his priorities, no matter how famous Casting Crowns may become. Despite their unexpected success on their first album and rise to fame, they have stayed true to their roots in not “selling out” as other groups did (“cough” POD and Lifehouse). Many of the themes in Lifesong are actually continuations and expansions of those from Casting Crowns’ first album, making it a true sequel.

Lifesong is a compelling album with a wide array of styles and songs appealing to a very diverse crowd. Musically, this album is very aligned with the first in its variety and style in the pop/rock genre. Acoustically, they sound like a mix between Third Day and Mercy Me while Mark Hall’s voice reminds me of Mercy Me’s Bart Millard and Lifehouse’s Jason Wade.

His deep rock-ish voice fits well to create a tone in his songs that seems to talk directly to us and confront us. And when Megan Garrett’s beautiful, smooth, and powerful voice enters in contrast to Mark’s, I just melt, like in her entrance in “Stained Glass Masquerade.”

But what strikes me most is the incredible amount of variety they create with such a simple style and their lack of flamboyance in all this. Their songs are not filled with solos and crazy coloratura (yea music hum!). Rather than being dominated by a single element, the songs mesh together when the individual parts resonate together. The [continued on next page]
Selfish Selflessness
by Konny Huh ‘08

Selfish Selflessness:
Is this the kind of fast I have chosen, only a day for a man to humble himself?
Is it only for bowing one’s head like a reed and for lying on sackcloth and ashes?
Is that what you call a fast, a day acceptable to the LORD?
[Isaiah 58:5]

God made me (us) in His image:
So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.
[Genesis 1:27]

All of my efforts to help the poor and needy before I knew Christ were precisely only a day, short and fleeting, as it says in Isaiah 58:5, with my innermost motivation being a completely selfish one. I wanted to achieve selflessness as a goal, and I wanted to “humble” myself. This is what happens to all things of this world when God isn’t in the picture – everything turns into a form of self-gratification and sin.

As stated in Genesis 1:27, I was made in the image of God, and He placed in me a desire to help the underprivileged and impoverished just as Jesus had compassion on His people. When I look back to my past and remember specific feelings and memories, it is amazing how God so obviously placed in my heart such a huge compassion for the less fortunate and a passion for justice.

I always had a pressing desire to volunteer and serve, but I did not know God; therefore, though my inherent, God-given desire to serve was the initial step to true selflessness, the steps that I took following that initial step went in the opposite direction of selflessness to true selflessness. As it says in Isaiah 58:5, I was “fasting” (or serving my brothers and sisters) in such hypocrisy and selfishness that culminated in worthless and mediocre efforts that did not accomplish anything: “Is it only for bowing one’s head like a reed and for lying on sackcloth and ashes?”

Every time I prepared to volunteer overseas, I felt so confident that I was going to work myself so hard and strain my entire self to help change dozens of lives, but now I know that I did nothing but bow down effortlessly like a reed and lie comfortably in my pride.

One might argue and say, “Well wait a minute Konny, it’s not like you went to Paraguay and Honduras and did nothing. You did get a part-time job and tutor kids during the school year to fundraise to volunteer in Latin America. And when you did go to those countries, you constructed latrines, taught health lessons, set up water-purification systems, etc...” And I would say, “Yea, that’s true. I did do all of that. And that’s exactly the problem - that’s the only thing I did.” I raised money, and I built things.

Then I have to ask myself another question that seems to have an obvious, default answer but really does not: “Konny, who did you do this for?” On the surface, I did all of these things for the people of Jhugua Poi in Paraguay and Chiligatoro in Honduras, but I really did everything for myself – the latrines, the gardens, the sanitation lessons were all for myself.

And this happened because of only one reason: my hardened heart would not accept God’s perfect love and my pride did not want to accept the truth that I could not change other peoples’ lives with my own strength. Therefore, I found myself always wrestling with feelings of emptiness and shame during and after volunteering. These feelings resulted from the absence of God and the presence of sin in my life.

However, after repenting and admitting my selfishness, I received Christ into my life during the second semester of my
freshman year at Columbia University. Ever since my new birth and life, God has been filling the emptiness and transforming my shame into confidence in the Lord. Now I am able to pray for the salvation of the souls of the countless children and families whom God allowed me to meet in Latin America with the utmost confidence that our just God will bring peace and joy into their lives.

This year I have been serving as the Public Health Chair of Columbia’s American Medical Student Association (AMSA) with the confidence of Christ Jesus.

Then your light will break forth like the dawn, and your healing will quickly appear; then your righteousness will go before you, and the glory of the LORD will be your rear guard. [Isaiah 58:8]

Through my involvement in AMSA, I am learning so much about the areas of brokenness in my community and the world that God is calling me to go into in order to heal the brokenness with the incredible love of Jesus Christ that I have witnessed. God is calling all of us to go into these areas where injustice oppresses the people whether it be through poverty, illiteracy, racism, or violence to practice the selflessness of Jesus Christ.

I believe that Jesus Christ views the unjust problems of this world today as a means through which Christ-believers can impart the greatest and only good of this world which is the salvation of the soul through Jesus Christ. “What good will it be for a man if he gains the whole world, yet forfeits his soul?” [Matthew 16:26]

Jesus Christ calls us to “break every yoke” by loosening all of the chains of injustice materially and spiritually:

“Is not this the kind of fasting I have chosen:
to loose the chains of injustice and untie the cords of the yoke,
to set the oppressed free and break every yoke?” [Isaiah 58:6]

The problems with the injustices of this world are trivial matters in comparison to the power of God. If God really wanted to, He could do away with all injustice. However, due to man’s sinful nature, the world has strayed away from God and rejected Him and thus, injustice exists.

Jesus Christ suffered the greatest injustice of being scorned and crucified upon the cross for loving us. He is not a God who sets Himself apart from His creation. He understands our pain because He endured the deepest pain of all time.

Volunteering and serving are gifts that build our character in the image of God while we strive to share our Christ-filled lives until every person justly possesses the salvation of the soul and the joy of the Lord.

Korea Campus Crusade for Christ

Korea Campus Crusade for Christ in America (KCCC) is an inter-denominational ministry committed to helping to fulfill the Lord’s Great Commission as stated in the Word.

Win the Campus today.

KOrea Campus Crusade for Christ

“Win the Campus today.”

KOrea Campus Crusade for Christ

“Win the World tomorrow.”

“All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit; and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.” [Matthew 28:18-20]
“Studying.” Bori Kang, Christine Kwak, Seon Hye Moon, Angela Oh, Kenneth Choi, Nancy Kim, and Jamie Oh.


Body building extraordinaire: Joe Hong.

Joo Lee Song and Sammy Yoon

Jamie Oh, Seon Hye Moon, Angela oh, and Joo Lee Song.

Brotherly love. Justin Lee and Kenneth Choi.


Emily Park

Jane Park

Janet Lee (senior) and Christine Chang.

Hyekyung Jung and Janice Kim.

A full color version of OVERFLOW is available at www.columbia.edu/cu/kccc/media.html
Senior Overflow


Clara Kim and Janet Lee

Irene Chang, Michelle Oh, and Janet Lee.

Bori Kang, Daniel Lee, and Paul Yoo.

Flora Cheng and Clara Kim

John Won, Carol Park, Jenny Kim (freshman), and Rebekah Chang (sophomore) at the Fall Retreat.

Julia Yu and John Won

Tim Kang and Daniel Lee

Jennifer Kim and Christine Chung.

Brothers: Tim Kang and Will Kang.
An Inheritance fit for a king
by Sang Mi Lee GSN

As I started to write this article, I began to think about what perspective I could bring about “missions.” I wanted something new. Something you may never have heard during your small group times, missions seminars, large group meetings, or even on Sundays.

As I read God’s Word and prayed, I found myself waiting for some sort of epiphany, an awakening, perhaps. But as time passed on, I realized that most of you who are reading this have heard every reason why we as believers take on this call to go into the nations. God’s Word is entirely about why we need to go and even what the costs and benefits of doing so are. And by far, I am not a leading expert in this subject whatsoever. In fact, the things I want to share stem from the mistakes I’ve come to realize while preparing for my upcoming STINT (Short-Term INternational) mission to Central Asia.

The psalmist proclaims in Psalm 4:3 that “the Lord will hear when I call to him.” Why do I share this? Because one thing that I have noticed over the past few months about myself was how much more I prayed and called out to God over this decision than anything else. I so wanted to hear God’s answer regarding this, but the more I prayed, the more He caused me to repent of my faulty prayer life as a believer.

You see this wasn’t the first time such a change was occurring in my life. Three years ago, as I was graduating college, I was offered a position at a top accounting firm. At that time, it seemed like the most logical choice seeing that my major had been accounting and so without a moment’s hesitation, I accepted. Hey, what other college senior wouldn’t?

But brothers and sisters, here is what I have learned. Just because I’m going into a closed, war-torn country does not mean I pray more fervently and need more conviction about going. In truth, this is the same attitude I should have had when I was a college senior deciding which job to accept. Our actions, as children of the Living God, must go beyond what the world and, at times, our reasoning prescribe. Logic does not dictate faith. God’s Word dictates faith.

In fact, it is God’s Word that invites all of His children to partake in missions! When Queen Esther first heard of Haman’s evil plan, her first response was to make excuses for why she was unable to do anything to help her people. Her cousin Mordecai answers her as follows: “Do not think that because you are in the king’s house you alone of all the Jews will escape. For if you remain silent at this time, relief and deliverance for the Jews will arise from another place, but you and your father’s family will perish. And who knows but that you have come to royal position for such a time as this?” [Esther 4:13-15]

Brothers and sisters, you and I are safe with the King. We have already invited Him into our lives and we dine with Him and we live in His presence. Yet there are many who have never had the chance to hear the gospel message.

And the part that shocked me the most? Even if Esther did nothing, Mordecai trusted God to raise deliverance and relief from someone else. It was then I knew that God would raise deliverance and relief for the people there whether or not I went back to Central Asia. However, just as Mordecai invited Esther to exercise every right her royal position gave her, so did God invite me to exercise my right in my royal position as the daughter of the King of kings!

Not only are we sons and daughters of God, but our Father, the King, has made us co-heirs with His Son, Jesus [Romans 8:17]. We have a right to that inheritance! And what inheritance does God promise His Son?

“He said to me, “You are my Son; today I have become your Father. Ask of me, and I will make the nations your inheritance, the ends of the earth your possession” [Psalm 2:7,8]. This promise was made to Jesus. But because of what Christ accomplished on the cross, we have been made co-heirs to the same inheritance. It is an inheritance that has no worldly value, but an eternal value. As for me, I’ve searched high and low for every reason not to go into this particular nation, but instead I’ve been graciously given every reason why I must go.

Dear reader, I pray that you would not fall into the same mistakes as I did. As in the first verse I shared, Psalm 4:3, call on Him! He will hear you and He will answer (though perhaps not the way you want it, but hey, that’s a whole new topic!). But I guarantee you this: the problem, more often than not, is that you and I are not even bothering to call out to Him.

If you are a son or daughter of God then your inheritance is the nations. Perhaps that may be inherited through working at an investment firm, as a kindergarten teacher or even a full-time campus ministry staff. But whatever it is, I leave with you this last verse: “Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts” [Psalm 95:7-8].
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**AND GOD PLACED ALL THINGS UNDER HIS FEET AND APPOINTED HIM TO BE HEAD OVER EVERYTHING FOR THE CHURCH, WHICH IS HIS BODY, THE FULLNESS OF HIM WHO FILLS EVERYTHING IN EVERY WAY.**  

[**EPHESIANS 1:22-23**]
Last winter break I went to my first Vision Conference. I’m not one to say often that an experience has changed my life, but I can honestly say that Vision 2004 was a life-changing experience for me.

During those four days and three nights, God showed me that He is more than words on a page, more than an idea in our heads, more than a really great emotion, even more than insightful Bible teaching. After Vision, I felt like a totally new person; God transformed me from whatever I used to be into what I am today.

I served at Vision as a boo soonjang. I had the pleasure of helping my brother Steve Ko from NYU lead a small group of amazing guys. My small group members came from all over, some weren’t even part of KCCC, but we still opened up to each other during that short time we spent together. I could see God changing those brothers in amazing ways between the first and last days of Vision.

I also had the privilege of emceeing on the first night of Vision with my sister Clara Kim from Columbia. It was nerve-wracking to be the very first people to kick off Vision, but it was an awesome experience. Standing up there, I could sense a feeling of “holy anticipation” from the 200+ people in attendance. It was also the first of many times that I got to beat box for a KCCC event last year.

Worship was amazing at Vision. Holy Roar was awesome. I worshipped at Vision like I never had before. Every single plenary session, I could feel the spirit of worship moving throughout that room.

Delta Force, the Vision media team, did an awesome job also. They helped to make the conference feel so official. Vision News at the start of each day helped me to remember all of the blessings I had received the previous day.

The speakers were really great. One of the keynote speakers, Mark Gauthier, talked about Peter. He said Peter “came to the end of himself to see the beginning of himself,” and that the “real sweet spot of life is fully surrendering to Jesus Christ.” His words opened my eyes to see that everything I think is so great, things as abstract as my own self-image or self-pride, need to be part of the ‘end of me,’ so that I could see the beginning of who God really desires me to be. Mark Gauthier said these four words that should be all of our desires and they really struck me: “Be great through me.”

What really made me feel like a new person was being able to lay down all of myself to the Lord. During our times of repentance each night, I put all of my sins before the Lord, which is something I had never done before. John Karaker, another keynote speaker, said that when we know we have repented, we have peace and we bear fruit.

After coming back from Vision, I felt the fruit. I had a renewed passion for the Word of God. I tore through the Old Testament, looking for the Lord in each word I read. I had already read the Bible cover to cover several times, but it was after Vision when I really searched for the true holiness of God in the Word. I don’t think I missed a single day of Scripture reading last spring semester. It was one of my Vision seminar speakers saying that people forget about the holiness of God that is so obviously displayed in the Old Testament that made me get so much out of books that are usually seen as dull, like Leviticus and the Chronicles.

Vision also helped me to get over my fear of witnessing. I gained a passion to witness after learning the importance of the Great Commission [Matthew 28:18-20] through the LTC sessions and hearing Kim Dong Whan GSN, who is the head of West Coast KCCC, say, “We’re supposed to turn the world upside down, but instead the world turns us upside down.” I was transformed from a fearful spectator into someone who stood on the steps of Columbia campus to witness to complete strangers. This was definitely not my work, but the work of the Spirit.

Not everyone has a story like mine after Vision. Some people meet Christ for the first time at Vision, some people are awakened like I was to experience God more deeply and intimately. Whatever your situation is right now, I, along with all of the people who are so faithfully fasting and praying for this conference, believe that God can use this conference to transform lives, even yours.