Go and Make Disciples - Mission U

CCC USA Northeast Winter Conference

By Patty Tang

On February 9, 2001, approximately 75 students from Columbia and Barnard attended the Northeast Winter Conference (Mission U) in Hartford, Connecticut, sponsored by Campus Crusade for Christ. This conference was designed to “go and make disciples . . . baptizing . . . teaching . . .” as Jesus said in Matthew 28:18-20. The main speaker, Jim (not Tim) Keller, spoke from the Great Commission, emphasizing the importance of surrendering to God’s power and authority. He addressed questions concerning who we were as disciples and who we needed to be in order to make disciples. We were also challenged to devote our lives to God’s purposes and even a year to His service through the Millennial Pledge. The conference not only had messages but seminars as well. Topics ranged from prayer and personal Bible study to evangelism and the challenges that would follow.

Many CCC fellowships from colleges and universities in the Northeast region were represented at the conference. The attendance totaled to approximately 1000 people. The conference brought together many campus fellowships and allowed the students to see what other fellowships do on their campuses.

Highlights from the conference include our own

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The Pursuit of God . . . My Pursuit of God

By Phil Kim

There I sat upright in my bed, wearing my pajamas, poring over the pages of Tozer’s words: “The man is ‘saved’, but he is not hungry nor thirsty after God.” When I read these words last semester I believed that Tozer was writing me a personal letter. Early last semester, when asked about my favorite biblical character I answered, “John the Baptist.” When asked why, I responded, “because he was esteemed by Jesus as the greatest of all men…and he knew what it meant to meet God in the desert.” But not only did I admire John the Baptist, I also wanted to emulate him. I wanted to meet God intimately in the desert, in the privacy of my

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Roving Reporter

“So what did you think of the NEWC conference?”

John Park (first year)
This conference has truly been an encouragement to see Christians uniting for the purpose of glorifying God and worshipping Him.

JoAnne Minaya (junior)
It has been blessing and refreshing. This was also a great time to meet new people and even strengthen friendships that I already have now.

John Chow (sophomore)
Good stuff.

SPRING BREAKERS FOR GOD

Last spring break I went down to Panama City Beach, Florida for CCC International Big Break. I went on a spontaneous whim and had absolutely no expectations for the trip. In fact, I wasn’t even aware that I would be witnessing to spring breakers. Looking back, I can only be grateful to God for giving me the precious opportunities to share my faith and allowing me to meet such a great array of people. It was amazing to see how much God was working in me as I shared with non-believers. Each day I was newly inspired by passionate speakers who encouraged me to let go of my inhibitions and to embrace my identity as a Christian. Worshipping with 1500 other college students gave me a taste of what it would be like when generations would finally gather before God. The hotels and accommodations were awesome and I spent most of my time on the beach with 100,000 non-believing spring breakers. As overwhelming as it may sound, God moved many hearts and thousands of seeds were sown.

Numbers are not important and that is not the goal of Big Break. However, I am sharing the following statistics as a testimony of what God had done through us during that single week. At the conclusion of our break, we discovered that there were 7198 conversations, 2865 conversations led to sharing of the gospel, 169 non-believing spring breakers decided to receive Christ and prayed for God's grace and salvation, and 501 believing spring breakers accepted the Hold Spirit track. In addition we found that a few CCC Big Breakers were actually students who had been witnessed to during their spring previous spring breaks. There's always that question of whether or not our testimonies and conversations will go on to help others to accept Jesus Christ. The testimonies at Big Break have proven to me that all things are possible through the power of God. I encourage everyone of you to go to Big Break and see what God has to offer.

“Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,”
-Matthew 28:19

“But by the grace of God I am what I am, and His grace to me was not without effect.”
-I Corinthians 15:10
URBANA 2000
THOUSANDS GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD AND LEARN TO SPREAD HIS WORD

From December 27, 2000 to January 1, 2001, more than 200,000 students, young adults, missionaries, and church and campus leaders from all around the world gathered at the University of Illinois for an international missions conference called Urbana.

Urbana is fueled by a vision to spread the gospel all over the world. “Our challenge as Christians is to reach across cultural and economic barriers to bring love to people and to bring the gospel of the Lord Jesus to them,” said Barney Ford, Director of Urbana 2000.

Urbana conventions have been held every three years since 1946 and have so far helped more than 194,000 people face that challenge.

During the conference, students participated in bible studies and large worship gatherings, attended missions opportunity exhibitions, where hundreds of missionaries were available to speak, and listened to seminars on various topics ranging from “How To Know If God Is Calling Me To Missions” to “Raising Resilient Missionary Kids” and “Martyrdom”.

The diverse backgrounds of the speakers and attendees and the variety of praise songs, which were sung in many different languages including Chinese, Hebrew, and Spanish, reflects Urbana’s international vision.

Urbana 2000 differed from past conferences in its strong message of racial reconciliation. Diverse attendance has not been a recent development at Urbana conferences, but the increasingly varied demographics add weight to the urgency of the message of racial reconciliation.

Interestingly, yet not by coincidence, the God who led the conference to focus strongly on racial reconciliation is doing just the same in the CCC fellowship on this campus.

But of course, all this began with worship. Esteban Kim (SEAS ‘02) described his eye[ball]-opening experience: “During the worship time when we were singing "Halleluiah, Salvation and Glory," I was reminded of the passage in Revelation where there is “a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and in front of the Lamb... And they cried out in a loud voice: ‘Salvation belongs to...

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People Worshipping God at Urbana 2000

Alumni Alley
LESSONS FROM A TEACHER

By Jenny Ko

Since May 2000, I’ve been in classrooms non-stop teaching students. From first graders to sixth graders, it’s been a memorable experience. I’ve seen students of all ages caught up in their everyday struggles. I look back and see Louis, a first grader who wet himself for three days straight for fear of the bathroom and his father. Annie, who slept through summer school, always tired from waiting for her mother to finish her job at the sweatshop. I see Eugene, my sixth grade Korean student who curiously asked me, “Are you Korean, Ms. Ko?” on the first day of school in September. At that moment, I knew I loved my job and that the money I wasn’t making really didn’t matter. I saw his face, so proud that we were both Korean. He giggled, I smiled and said, “Have a good night, Eugene.” A common bond. I envisioned where Eugene had been and where he may go.

There’s the connection that I desire to make with my students, one that I try to achieve with every student who walks in my room. A feeling of comfort and a feeling of “I can do it.” I know that many of my students can’t even remember what I taught them this morning but the one thing that I want them to remember is the message to dream big and to have a vision.

When my students get in “trouble”, I often sit with them and ask the simple question, “What do you want to be when you grow up?” A common question yet one with a simple

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Who’s Who:
Staff Bio
Larry Christensen
CCC USA

1. When and where were you born? June 6, 1952 in Lewellen, Nebraska.
2. Where do you live now? 910 West End Ave., Apt. 1B (1 block West of Broadway at the corner of 105th.
3. How long have you been married to your wife? How many children do you have? Married for 29 years; 4 boys - ages 24 (married for one year), 22, 17, 15.
4. What is your college background? BA in Psychology from the University of Nebraska - ’74; Graduate Study in Biblical Studies at International Graduate Study in Biblical Studies at International Studies at International College.
5. How many years have you been on staff for CCC? 26 years
6. How tall are you exactly? 6’1”
7. Write one interesting fact about yourself...or one interesting incident that happened to you. In 1990 I had a whitewater accident in a kayak when I hit a rock under water with my face. I knocked a front tooth out and broke the palate bone in my mouth. I had to wear orthodontic braces for three years and had a false tooth permanently implanted.

Alumni Alley: Jenny Ko

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vision. Many of their answers are a doctor, lawyer, computer programmer or even...yes, a teacher. Whatever their goal, whatever their dream, I ask them to look at their actions and see if it's helping them achieve their dream. Often times the response is "No, Ms. Ko... I'm sorry... I won't do it again." What I want them to remember is that they can have visions but they need to work and have faith that those dreams will happen.

I believe that God has given me a heart for my students, an attitude of hope for those who seem hopeless. As I look at my students I can see the future lawyers, doctors, politicians and even teachers. I make these visions clear to each of them. They need to know that someone is supporting them. Our God does the same for each and every one of us. He wanted me to be a teacher and he made the path clear. He gave me the heart for teaching, for my students and even for the subject area. (For those of you, who know me, well, that's truly a miracle!)

Do you have a dream, a vision? Pursue it - in faith believe that He who died for you while you were still a sinner (Romans 5:8) will carry you to the end. "Ms. Ko...I don't know what I want to be when I grow up..." I don't hear this often, but I know that there are some that feel this way...

My challenge to you is to open your eyes, try new things, search deep inside yourself, sit in prayer and ask yourself, "If I could do anything in this world, regardless of my skill or money, what would it be?" When you come up with an answer start pursuing this goal. Your only intention should be to help others. Your only goal should be to love others as Christ loved us.

My hope is that teaching is a way for me to achieve the goal: to love others as I have been loved by Christ.

Roman Holiday

By Lillian Ho

I will never forget the excitement of my first day in Italy. My friend Joanne and I had gotten into Rome late the night before, exhausted from our long flight and too tired to do anything but find our hotel and tumble into bed. We awoke the next morning to a bright sun and clear skies- a far cry from the blizzard we had left behind in New York, or the rain forecasted for Rome on www.weather.com. We saw it as a good omen, and set off on our first of 10 days of sightseeing. Our good luck held; throughout that week and a half, though the weather, Italian buses, our guidebook and our legs muscles nearly all gave up on us, Italy never did. We saw all the famous sites: St. Peter’s Basilica, the Ancient Roman Forum, the Coliseum, Piazza Navona, the Spanish Steps,...too many to list. We got to be the consummate tourists, armed with cameras, sneakers, maps and guidebooks. We also had the chance to experience cities with hundreds, no--thousands of years of history. We saw the Core Curriculum first hand- from the ruins of the Forum where Cicero spoke to the grandeur of Michelangelo’s Sistine Chapel. Everywhere we went, we saw the evidence of Western civilization, and along with that, evidence of the rich tradition of Christianity. We saw first, in modern day Rome, a modern Christmas celebrated with the largest Nativity scene I’ve ever scene, complete with a 3 foot high baby Jesus, and recorded Italian Christmas music. A few days later, we experienced the early days of Christianity, by visiting the catacombs along the ancient Via Appia. The catacombs were tombs used by the Christians in the first and second centuries. They are now esteemed as the rich sources of early Christian history and art. We saw original examples of Christians using the fish and the dove as symbols. I learned that another early Christian symbol was the anchor, symbolizing the faith in Christ that anchors us, as well as the illustrating the fact that we are covered by the baptismal waters. I never expected to learn these things while on vacation in Rome, but God pleasantly surprised me and showed me how alive He was in our world through all that awed me. I saw for the first time how far back Christianity reached- not only did Jesus live two thousand years ago, but Christians who believed the same things I do lived as well. I saw how the glory of
A GREAT DISCIPLER

By Chris Choi

No words can ever do justice in fully explaining my discipler, my brother, and my friend Seung Bok "SB" Lee. However, with the meager words of mine, I begin my story in hopes that his cause will not be forgotten. It all started 2 summers ago, when a brother from CCC mass emailed a bunch of people asking if they could help a friend of his. I have to admit, at first I dismissed it because I already had an internship at a lab uptown and didn’t see the time to help. However, God burdened me. I will never forget SB’s first e-mail to me where it said, “I’ve been praying and I want you.” Of all the guys on the e-mail list, he picked the one guy he didn’t know. After much vacillation, I finally decided to take that step of faith and meet up with this brother. Everything worked out between us. SB was a Dartmouth medical student and a Columbia Alum, who was taking courses at the place where I happened to have my internship. Everyday after work, I would swing over to his apartment and help him settle into his sublet. During those times, he began to disciple me. Amidst his busy schedule he took time out to pray for me, to teach me what it means to be a follower of Christ, showing me the importance of memorizing verses, and how to love the Lord in all that I did. It was a friendship with a vision. As the summer ended and he prepared to go back to Dartmouth, he emphasized the importance of passing on what I know. Matthew 28:19 states, “Therefore go and make disciples of nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit.” Inspired by this verse, I urge you all to think about discipling. Granted that there is much more to discipleship than I shared, however, never feel that you are inadequate to earnestly pour your heart into another as Jesus did for his disciples. SB managed to stop for me amidst his busy medical school life and his duties as a staff member for Navigators. In addition, there is one thing I forgot to mention — he did this all while sitting in a wheelchair. Despite being paralyzed, he became the greatest influence in my spiritual life.

Questions about discipleship?
Call me x35085 or chm18@columbia.edu

Recommended book: Personal Disciplemaking by Christopher Adsit.

Urbana 2000

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our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb
“(Revelation 7: 9-10). [At Urbana] I got a glimpse of heaven...”

Some may wonder how such a large and formal convention is necessary or even helpful. One participant noted, “...the greatest impact that Urbana has is on peoples’ perspectives. It doesn’t seem so crazy or impossible to take that step of faith. Whereas someone may be in the vast minority at school or even church, at Urbana they’re surrounded by nearly 20,000 people who are deeply committed to some form of ministry.... Urbana allows people to encounter the reality of missions. Often, their vague, abstract fears or rationalizations are confronted with the immediacy of global missions and practical lives of everyday missionaries.”

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Jenn Lee and girls from all over the country in fellowship at Urbana 2000

"a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and in front of the Lamb... And they cried out in a loud voice: ‘Salvation belongs to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb’”

(Revelation 7: 9-10)
God had inspired churches, works of art, lives of martyrs, and had done so for two thousand years. It was the tail end of the millennial Jubilee in Rome, which meant that all over Rome were Catholics making special trips to Rome. There were Christians from every continent—Filipino nuns, South American nuns, Italian tourists singing hymns while waiting on line to enter St. Peter’s, and young African priests in training. In Rome, I was able to see with my own eyes evidence of how wide, how deep, how high and how long God’s love stretches.

Letter From a Member:

“I can go without bread, but I cannot live without my dream… I do not have to have money and life does not have to be comfortable, but I must have my dream…” (Pastor Danny Han).

Heavenly Father,

I have a dream for this campus. I have a dream for there to arise amidst a spirit of brokenness and repentance, a mighty movement of prayer. I have a dream for there to arise amidst a cloud cynicism and pride, a new generation who have clean hands and pure hearts and who seeks Your face, oh God of Jacob. I have a dream for You to open up the floodgates of heaven and rain down your power upon Columbia University. I have a dream for worship to exist on this campus once again to your glory, oh Lord God Almighty.

You said, “You expected much, but see, it turned out to be little. What you brought home, I blew away. Why? Because of my house, which remains a ruin, while each of you is busy with his own house.” (Haggai 1:9)

And so, let now be the time. May you raise up a new generation - men and women who will once again build your house on this campus. A new generation who will fight! Soldiers who will march! For your glory oh Lord God Almighty shall be revealed and we shall see it together.

We cry out Lord. We need You.

In Christ alone,

AMEN.