

TAKING *faith*

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Unlikely Belief

Have you ever said you believed something, but in practice you didn't live out that belief?

"Successful witnessing is taking the initiative to share Christ in the power of the Holy Spirit, and leaving the results to God." - Bill Bright (Founder of Cru). I have heard that so many times that it has become ingrained in my thoughts on evangelism... however last week, I realized that I hadn't been living it out personally.

It was a warm sunny day sprawled out all across campus of mine & Cru regional staff) campus with the intention of As we rounded a corner, we a "vape pen" and hanging out a cement bench. Ian was more than willing to have a conversation with us and was quick to share about his background in the Catholic church, and his subsequent departure from the church when he came out as bisexual. As soon as he mentioned his sexual past, my heart sank a little. I thought that this student would never say yes to Jesus after he had been so hurt by christians.

"the gay community may have given up on God, but He hasn't given up on them."

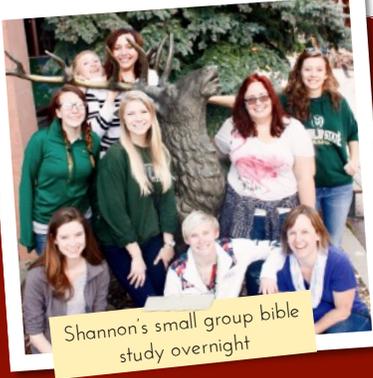
last Tuesday, and students were enjoying the day. Kelly (a friend and I were walking across initiating spiritual conversations. noticed Ian*. He was smoking

Ian shared about his experience of coming out to his parents and how the experience had changed their relationship. He talked about how the gay community had also walked away from God, and how it was normal to be rejected by the church and then to reject God all together in response. I assured Ian that the gay community may have given up on God, but He hasn't given up on them. He then said that he had this desire to know more about who God is.



Every Spring Break some of our students go to an evangelism conference in FL and are trained on how to share their faith

We walked through the Gospel and what it looks like to enter into relationship with Jesus, not just know about him, and Ian's face lit up. That afternoon Ian placed his faith in Jesus Christ as payment for his personal sins... and I was reminded why it was important to "leave the results to God." No one is beyond God's reach. He just asks us to take the initiative and He will take care of the heart change! *Name changed



Shannon's small group bible study overnight

Overnight

One of the most important aspects of leading a small group bible study is creating an atmosphere for students to build authentic community with one another. However, it's a tricky task since typically, many of the students in a small group are not already friends outside of their weekly time together.

Shannon has done a good job over the course of the last few years by creating an overnight for the girls in her small group. This last weekend 14 women packed into a rental in Winter Park, CO and spent the night bonding, sharing their lives with one another, and connecting on a deep level.

The authentic community built during a weekend like this will pay dividends for the rest of the year.



- Praise God that over 80 CSU students came to our Fall retreat. (title background picture)
- Pray for freshmen to build relationships & continue to take steps of faith into community
- Pray for *Ian as he grows in his understanding of what it looks like to follow Jesus. Give him faith to step into areas of growth in his life as the Holy Spirit leads him, and for his ability to love others in the gay community towards a relationship with Jesus.
- Pray for our bible studies to continue to grow in community as we share life together