

Merry Christmas

November/December
Year 3 Letter 3



Merry Christmas! At this time of year I can't help but think about the faithfulness of God. He, knowing we were far from Him and that we were unable to do enough to be close again (Rom 6:23), promised to send us one who could make us right (Is 53:7, 10). What a God of love, that in our rebellion against Him, He would send His son, Jesus, to fulfill His promise and rescue us. Let us celebrate His faithfulness this Christmas season!

God has also been so faithful this semester on campus. Many nights at Cru the guys outnumber the girls (which is somewhat rare on campus). We continue to see more and more freshman attending both the weekly meetings and Bible studies. Most importantly we are watching as our upperclassmen take their walk with God more seriously, finding ways to incorporate their faith in the classroom, digging in to the truths of scripture and setting a great example for our underclassmen. Our staff team watched as students organized and promoted an outreach on campus centered around the theme, 'Who Is Jesus.' Nearly 200 students came to find out, including the Secular Student Alliance club!

One freshman girl, Bailey said this after finishing her first semester at IUP, "I. Love. Cru!" She was so excited to complete her first semester of college with her faith intact. Being a freshman in college is challenging; she told the story of a professor who assumed she was a partier. He said in front of the class, 'You'll be drinking at the parties tonight, won't you?' Instantly, she responded: 'No way! I'm a Christian and don't need alcohol to have fun!' Bailey is just one of the hundred students in Cru who has flourished in her faith here at IUP. It is so encouraging to watch freshman passionate to represent Christ. Coming soon after Christmas is a conference we call, Radiate. It will be the perfect opportunity to spur students on in faith for the Spring. Together with about a thousand students from around the region, they develop a passion for the Word and for reaching their campus for Christ. Honestly, I have never seen a conference with such lasting effects; I still have the notes I took about discerning God's will when I went seven years ago! Would you help me and our twenty students to go? I am trusting God for \$1,000 to help cover these conference expenses. Would you prayerfully consider giving a special Christmas gift to help meet these needs? As God already has, I know He will bring all things together to draw people to Himself. Thank you for all you are and have already done. It means a lot.

For His glory, (Col 3:17)

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