

sdsp  
2009

JESUS IS BETTER

San Diego Summer Project  
Mission Beach, CA

Therefore He is able to save completely those who come to God through Him, because He always lives to intercede for them.

Hebrews 7:25



Campus Crusade for Christ's San Diego Summer Project gathers 160 staff and students from across the country for an incredible summer mission. While we come from different backgrounds, we are united by our desire to know God more deeply and to see Him transform lives.

We are drawing near to God through our study of the book of Hebrews in our large and small group meetings. We are consistently reminded that "Jesus is Better" than all else. He is the treasure that we must pursue! Our personal times with the Lord, along with our men's and women's times, also reinforce this eternal reality.

From the perspective of our outreach ministry, our summer has felt a little bit like what Luke describes in Acts 2 when he writes, "...and the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved." Whether the relationships are formed on the bus as we move around town, at the beach, on area campuses or at work, God is bearing fruit for His kingdom. We are reminded that "Missions exists because worship doesn't." God is drawing people to worship Him as we move forward in this Great Commission work.

Thanks so much for partnering with us to make such an incredible summer possible. Our hope is that this update will encourage you and minister to you as we highlight some of God's blessings from the first half of the summer project.

## Talking About Christ

Steven and I approached a man whose two sons were boogie boarding further down the beach. Steven offered to go keep an eye on his boys while I waited with him for his wife to come back from a café. He and I talked through the questions on our survey about life and God. When Steven came back, we shared with the man about what it means to know God personally, and he indicated a decision to receive Christ.

-Cassius Hartl, University of North Dakota



I believe in Christianity as I believe that the sun has risen; not only because I see it, but because by it I see everything else.  
- C.S. Lewis



Initiating conversations at SDSU

Some people are searching for money or for love. Some people are just searching for something more. A man I met on the boardwalk knew about Jesus and believed that there was a higher power but was scared and looking for hope. Through a discussion about God's love and mercy, the man asked Christ to change his life. He was so excited and asked for our website and more information about how to read and study the Bible on his own.

-Stephanie Goodman  
University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point



Students sharing their faith on the boardwalk



Andrew just graduated from the University of Illinois and is here on project before he begins law school this fall. After being here for two weeks, he bumped into a friend, Eric, at our Friday Night Live meeting. Andrew had worked with Eric at Hyvee in the Quad Cities (on the Iowa-Illinois border) during high school before they were both students at the U of I. Andrew was surprised, of course, as worlds collided. He said that the last time he had seen Eric, "We were at a bar either drunk or on the way to getting there." Since that time, Andrew has made some different decisions that have affected the direction of his life. Eric then explained that he now lives in San Diego and had met Cody and Amanda, two other students from project, who were out sharing their faith during an outreach. After hearing the gospel from these students, Eric accepted Christ. He had come to the Friday Night Live meeting to start growing in this new relationship with God.



Instructions about the renovation

## Serving the Community



Finishing up a hard day of work

Since I've been on project I've been challenged to be more of the man God wants me to be.  
-Cory Cotton, Texas A&M

## Seeing God Change Lives

I accepted Jesus Christ as my Savior in San Diego on June 5, 2009. I had renounced God at a very young age, and as I grew up, my heart filled with hate and anger. Nothing would take away the bad memories, so I turned to drugs. Jesus has changed my life. I am excited to grow more in my relationship with Him every single day.  
-Jordan Brant, Friends University



Jordan with staff member Beau Janes

In the inner city of San Diego there are many who are left with no homes. They have no shelter and are left to sleep wherever they can find a spot. Fortunately there are people, such as Margarita, who devote their time to providing shelter for them. This June we were able to help her renovate her home. It was a chance for us to share God's love through our work ethic. When the renovations are completed in a few weeks, this house will become a homeless ministry center where groups can come for classes and training to reach out to this segment of the population.

"Summer project has unified us together in sharing our lives and affecting others."  
-Mike Carr, SIUE



As of June 24, we have interviewed 600 students and residents of San Diego with a five question survey about life and God. The last question asks, "If you could rate your desire to know God on a scale of 1-10, 10 being highest, what would your desire be? The average, so far, is 7.3. The most common answer is 10.

## Impacting the World



Helen, Kelsey, Jing and Lily

Helen, Jing and Lily are from China and are taking language classes at San Diego State University. They hope to stay in the United States to finish their undergraduate degrees and then return to China to work. Kelsey and I met them during their lunch break and asked if they would be willing to participate in the Quest interview. Their English is intermediate, so the conversation was slow but revealed that none of them were Christians. After meeting with them three times, they are coming to an understanding of the gospel - that they cannot reach God by doing good things but only through a relationship with Jesus. We will continue our conversation with them each week, praying that God will reveal Himself and they would choose to follow Christ.  
-Holly Allan, Campus Crusade staff in St. Louis