

The Lowedown

A monthly update from the life and ministry of Dave & Jennifer Lowe

December, 2004

Experience Jesus Week

A few weeks before Thanksgiving, we engaged in an outreach that we call "Experience Jesus" Week. The outreach was conceived by some folks in our Regional office as a way to unite our campuses together.

The idea was to have one week, where all of the campuses in our region (CA, AZ, Hawaii) would be participating in a similar outreach endeavor on their campus.

At the beginning of the year, our leadership agreed that it would be a good idea to do, but we didn't delegate it to anyone in particular at that time.

The week before our Fall Retreat, I was looking at the calendar, and I saw "Experience Jesus Week" highlighted on the calendar. Just looking at it made me nervous and stressed out because I knew that nothing specific was planned and I was afraid of an impending disaster.

I met with a student who is passionate about outreach and I challenged him to lead the charge for this event. He declined due to an unusually heavy load at that time. I wasn't sure what to do.

As I was meeting with our team, I decided to delegate the job to two of our interns. They were happy to help, but they weren't sure how to proceed.

Since our Fall retreat was coming up, we decided to enlist the help of our students. We made an announcement at one of our meetings about the upcoming Experience Jesus Week. We told the students that we needed ideas and if anyone was wanting to help plan the week, they should show up for a meeting to be held during the free time.

To our surprise, 15 guys showed up to the meeting. Many of them had great ideas. Several events were quickly planned for that week.

At the meeting that night at the retreat, the outreach events were explained and students were encouraged to sign up for the events in which they wanted to participate. Over 60 students signed up to participate.

One of the events was entitled "Are you Stressed Out?"

Students who approached the table were encouraged to "relieve" their stress in several different ways. At the first station, they were invited to throw a large water-soaked sponge at one of our student volunteers.

At the next station, they were invited to yell at another student volunteer.

Finally, at the last station, one of our students shared some thoughts from the Bible on how Jesus alone can give us lasting peace.

Students who completed the stations were given a stress ball with an imprint of our website.

It was pretty hilarious seeing students go through the different stations.

In addition, we handed out over 4500 copies of our Real Life Newspaper to students on campus.

Overall, many of our students shared their faith for the first time that week. It was definitely a step of faith for many of our students and I believe it was a significant event for our group in getting many of our students excited about the mission of our group.

Pray for those students who we shared with that week and please pray for us as we continue to think of new and creative ways to reach students on campus!

Have a great Christmas and New Year!

Praises

- For the many students who participated in "Experience Jesus" Week.
- For being able to pass out over 4500 "Real Life News" Newspapers.

Prayer Requests

- That we would see 75 students attend our annual Christmas conference in San Diego from December 27-30. This conference is an amazing time of growth and development for our students.
- That we would see many students apply to go on summer missions projects this next summer. We are praying that 40 students would attend projects both in the U.S. and overseas.
- We will be doing a mini outreach week to start the Winter Quarter. We are calling it "Welcome Back Week". Pray that new students would come and get plugged in.
- We have over 500 students on our e-mail list who are not involved. Pray that we'd be able to personally connect with each one and for those who have drifted away from the Lord, pray that we'd be able to encourage them to recommit themselves.
- In February, we're hosting a series of lectures over 2 days from Hugh Ross and his "Reasons To Believe" team. Pray that many would come and that many skeptics would be encouraged by the evidence presented.