



Mark & Brenda Brown



PRAYER REQUESTS

- > As you receive this newsletter I (Mark) am in New York with 34 staff and students. Please pray for us as we spend a couple days on city campuses and a couple days doing inner-city ministry.
- > Two new staff just reported fresh from the University of Nebraska. Please pray for Ted and Alicia Smith and the many adjustments they are making as new staff at KU.



Several of our students were in the championship KU intramural game (played in Allen Field House) and they won!

CAMPUS CRUSADE FOR CHRIST-KU

Check out our website — www.MarkandBrendaBrown.com

Why Students?

We have been doing this student ministry thing for a while now. It just hit me the other day, had I married early and we had kids early I could be my new staff guys dad! That makes you think. But it seems the Lord has been reminding us over and over again the importance of working with university students. Here are our top

three reasons.

1. Students are seeking answers at this confusing time.

All of a sudden students are thrown into a world of very diverse values and world-views. My first roommate was Jewish, as a small, town boy that was a first. More than ever students are confronting a world culture and a politically correct climate that makes traditional Christian values seem antiquated and even wrong. Yet in the midst of this they want to talk and work it out, what will they believe? Recently, I just shared Christ with an atheist and agnostic. Both were raised in the church, both had strong opinions but both really wanted to talk about our various positions.

2. Student are vulnerable and their choices have long term consequences.

Jon is an RA in the dorm and one of our leaders. He told me just last week one of his hall neighbors came home drunk and very upset. Jon sat to talk with him and just listened. When Jon started asking about spiritual things the student told him he had a Christian background and for the first two

weeks had his bible out on his desk in the dorm. Guys began to mock him for having his bible out and throughout the semester have called him names and heckled him calling him gay. He is not but the pressure was too much. He put the bible away and started going out drinking. What a sad story, sadder still is the part about putting the bible away which is all too common. Students undergo seismic shifts during these years. Lately we know of many students who have experienced parents divorcing as soon as they go off to school, the loss of a parent, a young man's twin brother walking away from his faith. I tell you, the pressure and pain students feel is no less that any adult. In the midst of this the reality are the choices the students make will last. Who will they marry, who will be their God and what will the work and mission of their life be; these are the questions they will answer with their choices. We must be here for them, just like Jon in that dorm room on a Friday night.

3. Students are tomorrows leaders. And are ready to go to the world.

Only 1 percent of the worlds population will graduate from college. Yet from that elect pool the leaders of government, business and education. This year our family has befriended Hajar, a 28 year old PhD. student at KU. She moved here from Iran in August and now has become a friend of our family. What a wonderfully sweet woman. She is devout in her Muslim faith but intrigued by Christianity. Our dinner conversations cover the topics of politics, terrorism, and our faith, Brenda just went over the Easter story. This woman is one of the elite scholars within Iran and plans on returning and helping her country. We could tell many more stories but it is clear, these students are world changers. Dr. Bright had it right when he said, "Reach the campus today, change the world tomorrow."

March 2008
2912 Chisholm Dr.
(785) 842-5507
markw.brown@uscm.org

Mark, Brenda & Katie