



November 3, 2020

Dear Interstate Association Family:

What a year of God's glory 2020 has been. Yes, this year has held grief, loss, and struggle, but our God remains so good to us, especially in campus ministry at Portland State this year.

This summer we connected with 376 students via social media. We hosted events that gave us a running head start on fall relationships with new students and sent out 89 care packages to students who engaged with us, welcoming them to be a part of fall events, sharing an information packet about local churches, and including fun gifts. Dozens of these students have connected with us regularly this term and/or have been visiting our local churches in person or online.

A student named Ben connected with the Discovery Group Sarah, the Associate Director, is leading. When COVID began, he turned back to the God he had met briefly in middle school. He has read the New Testament and Genesis-Leviticus on his own the past six months. He told us that he was excited to join NCM because he does not know any peer believers and has had no one to discuss what he is reading in the Word. He is also extremely passionate about inviting friends to study the Bible for the first time. We're excited to see him experience community with peers and thrive as he grows in Christ.

At the beginning of COVID, a questioning and anxious Nara found her way back to the faith she had been introduced to in middle school. She has read through the New Testament on her own the past six months, rededicated her life to Christ, and is so hungry to learn how to share Him with others. I have the privilege of meeting with her for discipleship this year. Last week we learned the three circles method for evangelism, and she promptly shared with a seeking friend!

McKenzie knew about Jesus from times going to Catholic church as a kid. But this summer because of her concern about COVID, she came to summer Bible study, and she is pursuing knowing Jesus for herself. We've shared the gospel with her several times over the past few months, but she has not yet fully grasped the difference of "grace alone by faith alone." Pray for McKenzie's salvation.

November 3, 2020

Page 2

Isaac has been serving on Student Lead Team. When he first joined NCM, he was painfully shy and barely spoke. Throughout COVID, I have had the privilege to disciple him on how to personally study and then teach the Word. He has been leading a Bible study this fall via Zoom and growing in his confidence as a communicator of God's Word.

Julia served and was discipled on Lead Team last year and this year we sent her to be a missionary at OHSU where she is continuing her studies. She has started reading through the book of John with one of her friends who doesn't yet know Christ and is continuing to volunteer as a Journey Group leader, pouring into a whole group of Freshmen girls as they study God's response to justice, unity, and diversity in this cultural moment. We are celebrating that the work that started at PSU is expanding to impact medical students on this local campus.

Thank you, Interstate Baptist family, for your support of collegiate ministry. These stories are a reflection of your investment in local ministry through your mission gifts to the Association.

What a difference for the kingdom we have the chance to partner in together!

That His glory might be revealed,

Miriam Rainwater
NCM Director at Portland State University