



theWheatley Word

March 2008

Happy Easter from Catherine! Hello to you all! I hope you had a blessed Easter celebration. We are learning so many new things, like the fact that Orthodox Easter does not always match up with Western Easter, falling on April 27th this year. Who knew? I feel so fortunate to get to celebrate my favorite holiday twice!

March Madness We've been hosting our own March Madness every Friday night for the past few weeks. We want to introduce our Greek friends to our community here, so for four Friday evenings we've planned events at our office including game and movie nights. We've loved meeting each other's friends and getting to know them a bit. Quickly becoming dear friends of ours, Kostas, who came to church with us a few weeks ago, and his friend Fenia have come every time. This week we're having a short film festival, watching films created by both our friends and a production company affiliated with Campus Crusade. We will have a short time of facilitated discussion following each of the films. Please pray our friends' hearts will be soft and ready to consider deeper, heart-related, eternal questions.

Looking in all the wrong places? We're trying all sorts of new things this month! As we initiate conversations with students at the University, we have a set of photos we show students, asking them to choose photos representing aspects of their life. Though it seems strange to some students, we have been surprised by how much students disclose about themselves in response to these photos.

Last week, I sat down next to three girls and asked if they'd be willing to answer a few questions for me. Before I could finish, they all got up and walked off as three guys swooped in to see what I was all about. Instead of just blowing them off, I decided I'd go all out and ask some very pointed questions. I asked them which cards represent their dreams and then, their current spiritual life. They played along and as the conversation kept going about spirituality, it was evident they were trying to figure me out. They asked if I believed like them, in Jesus, the Father and the Spirit. You can probably guess my answer and I expanded a little bit to illustrate how my belief affects my daily life. I asked if they liked to talk about things like that, to which they responded "No" in unison. When I asked where I could find people interested in talking about God, their answer saddened me: "You're in the wrong place."

However, my hope isn't rocked. In fact, answers like that show me we are precisely where we need to be. We are trusting that God is at work in the hearts of students at each of these Universities, and we're going to keep looking until we find them.

So Close, Yet So Far Little do they know that there is a handful of guys we've talked to lately who are desperate to give their lives to something and they want to check out God. Kostas and his best friend Bobis want to read the Bible, but the only ones they have are in Ancient Greek, which they can't understand. While every bookstore sells Bibles in Modern Greek, very few people know this. It seems like over and over they are so close, but yet so far. Please pray they will read God's Word and that it will come alive in their hearts. Pray that God will also lead us to students who are seeking Him right now. And where are the girls? Pray we'll find some interested girls!

Pack Those Bags! Over the next few weeks, we'll be taking a few trips to scout out universities in other parts of Greece. Then we'll be taking our required trip out of the country for our visa. Please pray for safe travel, wisdom as we visit these other campuses, and great times with our teammates. **Thanks for praying!**



*Paul
&
Catherine*



Paul, Kostas, Bobis & their friend Aphrodite



Catherine & Christina meeting girls at a birthday party



Please pray...

- for Kostas and Bobis to want to read the Bible with us.
- for God to bring our team to more girls who are searching for Him.
- for wisdom and insight as we scout out new campuses in the next few weeks.

It's Greek to Us!

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