

“By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.” John 13:35

Greeting Friend!

“Can I go to church with you even though I am not a Christian?” Chen’s question was sweet and honest. She is still a teen and it is her first time outside of her home country. She had applied for a visa three times in order to study in the states and each time was denied. In January, her mom started attending a Christian church where she asked for prayer so her daughter could study in the states. Chen tried a fourth time and got the visa with no hassle. Once she arrived she was curious about the God who answered her mom’s prayers so she prayed **“God, can you help me meet people from a church.”** The next day we met her on campus. She desperately wants to be a part of Bible Studies and church but is apprehensive as she is not a believer. God’s faithfulness to Chen and plan for her is evident. We’ve already met countless times talking about creation, original sin and God becoming man in Jesus. I have yet to explain the gospel in its entirety and am praying that she will readily understand grace without works and come into relationship with Jesus.

“I have never experienced female relationships where I can be freely me and not be afraid of how people will talk about me afterwards.” Within LA culture, relationships between women at large are competitive and degrading. Often they are quick to judge and verbally assail each other so when Sonia saw the vulnerability and affirmation of the young women in my group displayed she was surprised and relieved. I look forward to seeing her come out of her insecurities and fears due to past relational experiences and exude the love of God to the women and peers around her.

The first week of classes a missions team from Virginia came and jump started my work on campus this semester. The team was made up of men and women between 30-60. Armed with bottles of water, bags of chips and fruit gummies the team spread out across campus engaging incoming students in conversations about God. The older women of the group had a special way of loving, listening, and praying for the teenagers and 20 somethings which disarmed these students in a way I have never seen before. It reminds me that we all have a desire to be parented, of which this incoming generation has experienced little and is hungry to experience more.

I have lots of work ahead of me mentoring, teaching, and sharing the gospel with the students in these stories and many more connections from the missions team. Thank you for your ongoing prayers. Together the next generation is getting the opportunity to hear and experience the gospel.

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Resources

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Investing in Students

Prayer Points

- ***Chen to understand and respond to the Gospel***
- ***Sonia to lead and share her faith on campus***
- ***Increased relational and leadership capacity for me***



Our First Bible Study

