



HOLIDAY OPPORTUNITIES

TAKING ADVANTAGE OF CULTURAL EVENTS TO SHARE CHRIST



We have often said that if we had to start our ministry over again, we would have had more parties! Most people love to be invited to a party. What better way to express love and appreciation than to invite a friend into your home for a meal? In our outreaches on campus, this has become an important part of our strategy.

At Thanksgiving, in addition to hosting family, we entertained 4 grad students from South Asia. This was their first time inside an American home. Along with the meal, we explained the history behind the holiday. Our explanation included the unique perspective Christians have on Thanksgiving - that we are giving thanks to God who has blessed and provided for us.

Sunday night a week ago, we helped host a Christmas gathering at a storefront church near the IUPUI campus. More than 30 international students came for dinner, Christmas treats, games, and music. Part of the program included a presentation of the Biblical meaning of this holiday. A former Butler University student from a South Asian background shared how he had come to Christ. His was a wonderful testimony of God's love and

forgiveness. The feedback was very encouraging. Eight students indicated an interest in discussing more about the testimony. Nine students want a Bible, 5 indicated they want to talk to someone about following Jesus and 3 said they would be interested in a four-week Bible discussion next semester.

In our professor ministry, we have decided to host a series of lunches at restaurants near our 3 main campuses. So far 15 professors have said they are coming. In each of these gatherings, we plan to express appreciation and encourage them in their witness for Christ in their places of work.

Christmas is a meaningful holiday. In campus ministry, holidays are useful as opportunities to have gospel conversations. In our broader culture, people everywhere have their attention drawn to the colors, the lights, the music, and the celebratory events. What a great way to declare the wonderful message of God's love and forgiveness on campus. Thank you for your partnership that is making that possible.

Jenny & John

Prayer requests:

- Thank God with us for 2023. It is amazing that we have been able to reach out to five campuses in three cities and two countries.
- Please pray with us about another spring break mission to Belgium. Ask God to raise up students and professors to join us on mission.
- We are traveling this holiday. Julia, who lives in Brooklyn, NY needs care for her cats while she travels to see her sister, Jerusha. They are meeting up in Athens, Greece.
- Thank the Lord for all our generous ministry partners. We truly are blessed with great friends!



Our crowd at Thanksgiving

