

THE LOWEDOWN

AN UPDATE FROM THE LIFE AND MINISTRY OF DAVE & JENNIFER LOWE

How sure are you?

"I was in trouble with the law and actually got arrested. But I didn't do any jail time because the judge decided to 'expunge' my record."

Jose was a student we approached at UC San Diego last month. About 30 of our new staff and interns were in Southern California for a week of training and development. One day was spent getting practical experience in evangelism at UC San Diego.

I was asked to serve as a coach for the 4 men pictured on the right (Aaron from Cal Poly, Pomona, Chris from University of Arizona, JJ from Chico State and Sam from University of Arizona. I'm pictured in the middle).

Our students initiated with many students during the course of the day but near the end of the day, we got a chance to talk to Jose. Jose grew up in Los Angeles and by most accounts, has experienced a pretty hard life. Drugs were a part of his life and there were numerous encounters with the law.

One day, Jose got arrested for drugs but the judge decided to "expunge" his record. It was then that Jose decided to try to make a fresh start by attending college.

As we talked to Jose I asked him this question. "Jose, if you were to die tonight, how sure are you that you would make it into heaven and live with God for eternity?" His answer surprised me.

"To be honest, I don't think I would make it", he said. "I have done some really bad things and I'll have to do a lot of good things to make up for all the bad things I've done."

Jose's life, unbeknownst to him, served as a perfect example of the gospel. I explained to Jose that because of Jesus' death on the cross, God, who is a perfect judge, has "expunged" our record of wrong-doings so that our slate is clean in his eyes. As a result, we are able to enter into heaven to live with God. As I shared this with Jose, I could see the light bulb go off in his head. For the first time, I



think he understood the essence of the gospel as a gift of grace rather than something that is earned through our own effort.

Afterwards, as we debriefed the day, one of the staff was encouraged to see that we could have meaningful conversations with random people on campus. I also learned that he was being disciplined back on campus by a staff member who was one of my students when we were at Davis.

It was a great day to do evangelism and see that our ministry years at UC Davis are still bearing fruit in places like University of Arizona.

Thanks for your partnership in the gospel to help staff like Chris see that we can have meaningful gospel conversations with students like Jose if we take the initiative to engage in conversations and seek opportunities to share the gospel.



JEN passes out spiritual interest questionnaires to students at UC Irvine during Fall Orientation week.



LAUNCHING DESTINO at Cal State Northridge. Latinos comprise over a third of the 30,000 students who attend Cal State Northridge.



JACOB is playing Little League again this year and is on the Ohio State Buckeyes. Here he is getting a chance to pitch in a game against the Giants.