

Sam Russell

Relay Prayer Letter
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"For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes..."

Greetings!

Roman 1:16

January and February are busy seasons, full of events and CU leaders handing over to an incoming group. The start of the month kicked off with Birmingham CU's events week – 'What if there is something missing?'

Events Week 2017:

With students getting back into the swing of university life and with plenty of weeks before deadlines begin, February is a brilliant time to give people the opportunity to seriously consider the claims and life offered by Jesus. Thus events week is born!

Each day of the wb30/01 we hosted a lunchtime, afternoon and evening event.

A typical feel of the day would go like so:

08:00-08:30 Breakfast
08:30-09:15 Prayer
09:30-10:00 Feedback and News
10:00-12:00 Flyering and Lunchtime Set-up
12:00-14:00 Lunchtime talk (see right)
14:00-16:00 Afternoon events
e.g. café, board games, art exhibition etc.
18:30-19:30 Evening Set up
19:30-21:30 Evening Event



Stories and People to Pray for:

Each day over 100 non-Christians were attending events and hearing the gospel faithfully and winsomely proclaimed. Indeed our speaker Glen Scrivener was fab! It was so encouraging seeing CU students step out in faith: serve and invite friends to events. Over the month the CU are running a follow-up course helping those who are seriously considering Christ. Throughout the week there were many great stories of the Lord at work! At least 7 people are known by the CU to have become Christians!

Please thank God for the work he has done in the lives of these students and many more that had the opportunity to explore Christ. Please be praying for them and all those who attended the events.

Some people in particular to hold up in prayer (names have been changed):

Emma:

Is a psychology student from Hong Kong in her second year. She comes from a secular home but was sent to Sunday School at a young age. As she grew older she didn't carry on going to church but since January of this year, (her second year of study in the UK) has decided to explore Christianity again. We knew each other beforehand through international events. She came along to a number of events during the week and we had some great chats over Jesus and faith. She has been attending church since though still has some questions before committing herself to Christ.

Ryan:

I met Ryan at an evening event, I was welcoming at and which he turned up on his own. He is an archaeology student and would describe himself as an atheist. He found the talk intriguing and we had a good chat over the reliability of the NT. We met up later that week to look at John's gospel, which he took away and started reading. Please pray the Spirit will work in his heart and that we can continue to meet.

Rose:

Rose is a student from China in their second year studying in the UK. Rose is very interested in religion from a sociological point of view. She has been to many bible studies and a Christianity Explored Course. After an evening event we chatted for over an hour and although Rose describes herself as an inquiring agnostic, I was able to challenge her to consider that we all have something that we put our trust and satisfaction in. For her it is humanity itself, to solve the world's problems. Please pray that she would see that humanity, while great, is also flawed and cannot save itself. Please pray that she may trust in Christ, humanity's true salvation.

➤ Derby Events Week: Monday 20th – Friday 24th Feb

Things coming up...

I will be heading to Derby to help with their events week, 'Life' at the end of the month. I have the great privilege of giving the following talks:

- Won't Christianity take away my freedom?
- What kind of God allows suffering?

➤ Forum Midlands: Friday 3rd – Sunday 5th March

This is a training weekend for CU leaders across the region. Pray they will be encouraged and equipped as they continue the Lord's work on their campuses.