



DISCIPLEMAKERS

Reaching the campus...Reaching the world



News from the Robergs' ministry with DiscipleMakers

November 26, 2025

From “All Religions Are the Same” to “Jesus Is God”

The end point we strive for with every student we meet is that they become disciples of Christ who make more disciples wherever they go. In contrast to that singular *end point*, students' *starting points* are incredibly varied. Some come into college with firm religious commitments, but many have simply adopted the prevailing attitudes of our culture without ever closely examining them. When the Spirit enables these students to hear His Word, they can make progress very quickly. (This dynamic is one of the things that makes college ministry so exciting!)

During the first week of the fall semester, our co-worker Chris went to the student activities fair at Penn State Berks and set up a big banner that invited students to investigate and know Jesus. This caught the attention of a student I'll call “Ian,” who walked up to Chris and challenged him to a debate about religion. Chris accepted, though he suggested that instead of a debate, they get together for a meal and some conversation.

A few days later, they met up for breakfast in the dining hall. Ian began the conversation by laying out his argument: there's no point in holding to one religion over another because the only differences among them are subjective. All religions worship the same God, Ian claimed, even if they describe Him in different ways.

This perspective appeals to many college students, probably because it reflects some of our culture's deepest commitments. These include the idea that truth is personal and subjective, and that the most important moral obligation is to be true to yourself. The problem with saying that all religions worship the same God, of course, is that it doesn't hold up to even a superficial comparison of what different religions actually say about God.

So there Chris was, sitting across from a young man who seemed earnestly committed to a viewpoint that he could easily tear to shreds. But given Chris' ultimate hope



Our co-worker Chris (right) with a student leader at the activities fair at Penn State Berks

for Ian—that he would become a disciple-making disciple of Christ—Chris knew that he needed to do more than tear down Ian's wrong ideas. He needed to offer Ian a glimpse of what is true, to see how he would respond.

He started by encouraging Ian to reconsider his claim that the world's religions believe essentially the same things. He pointed out that Muslims reject the Christian conception of God as Father, for example, and that Christians reject the Hindu concept of reincarnation. As they explored these and other fundamental differences, Chris watched carefully to see how Ian would respond. Would he get angry and double down on his position, or would he show curiosity and a desire to learn what's true?

By God's grace, Ian displayed more and more curiosity as their conversation progressed! After about an hour of



The DiscipleMakers fellowship from Penn State Berks at our Fall Conference in October.

discussion, Ian seemed to have run out of arguments defending his position but nevertheless seemed eager to continue their conversation. So Chris asked him a purposeful question: "What do you think of Jesus?"

Ian pondered the question for a moment, then said that, though he recognized that Christians worship Jesus as God, that Jesus must have been merely human because he made mistakes like any other human.

"Can you give me an example of when Jesus made a mistake?" Chris asked.

Ian mentioned the episode when Jesus flipped over tables in the Temple, describing this as an instance of inappropriate anger.

"How about we take a look at it together and see what really happened?" Chris suggested. He opened his Bible to Mark 11 and they read verses 15-19 together. Then he explained what was happening in that story, and how Jesus' anger was a fitting response to those who, for selfish gain, were excluding the Gentiles from worshipping God.

This made sense to Ian, and he became even more curious. So Chris took him to Hebrews 4:15-16 and explained that while Jesus was truly a man and even faced the same temptations we do, he did so without ever sinning. As Chris continued expanding on the implications of this, and how Jesus' perfect life and death for us makes it possible for us to know God, he saw a look of sincere awe on Ian's face.

"I've never heard this before," Ian said.

After their conversation, Chris bought Ian a Bible and invited him to the weekly Bible study he was leading on campus. Ian has not missed a single meeting all semester.

Recently, Chris and Ian got together one-on-one again. During their conversation, Ian told Chris that he is now

confident that Jesus is God, and that he even prayed for the first time, asking God to show him His grace.

Ian hasn't quite reached the point of fully putting faith in Christ, but it's clear that God has been drawing him and that he is much closer than he was at the beginning of the semester. Praise God for His faithful work in students' hearts!

Praise and Prayer

- Pray for Ian, that the Spirit would bring him to repentance and saving faith in Christ.
- Pray that the Lord would open many other students' hearts to the truth of His Word, and would give us opportunities to share with them.
- Praise God for a successful Fall Conference in October, where nearly 600 students spent a weekend in the Word together.

Grace and peace,

Brian & Cain



We celebrated our 17th anniversary during the conference weekend!