

# Back on Campus!

*It's already been such an encouraging start to the semester!*



The photo on the right is from my very first week on campus at TTU in **February 2023**. I threw a Garden Party just in hopes to meet some new girls who maybe wouldn't normally come to a campus ministry weekly meeting.

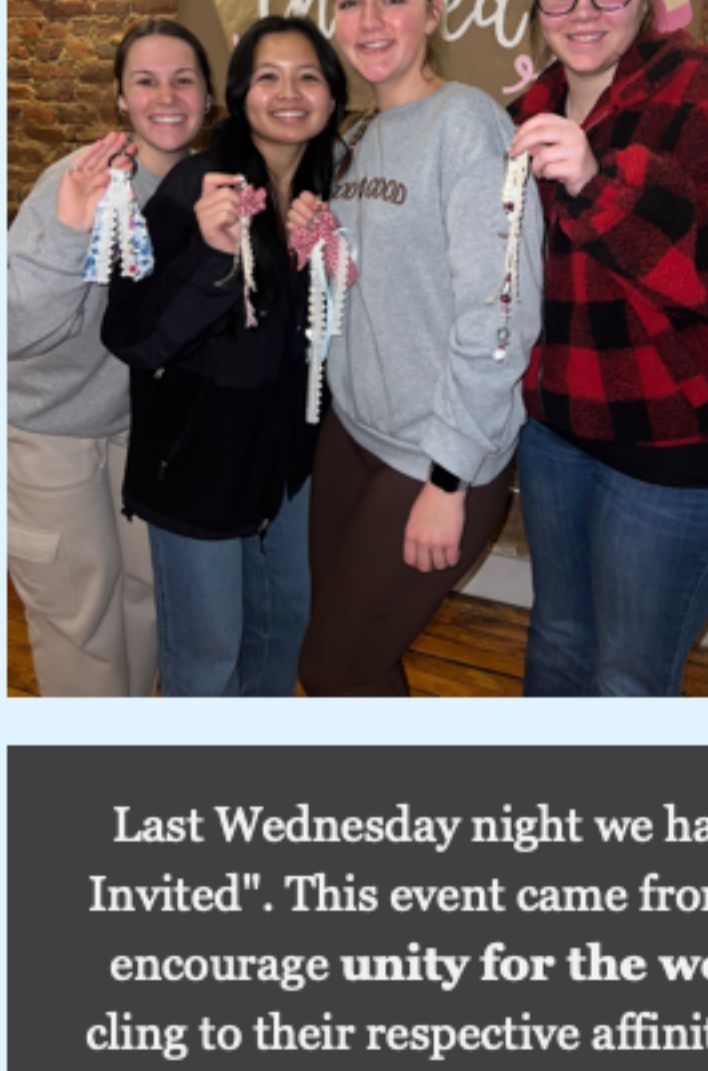
That week I met Gabrielle and Abby (who many of you recognize! :) - I started to read the Bible with Gabrielle and we prayed for God to raise up women in her sorority, Kappa Delta. At that time, she was the only one I knew.

Fast forward to the the photo on the right, Gabrielle now works as a nurse and a cycle instructor at Cookeville's "Bike Barre". She leads "Worship Bike" classes where the only songs that play exalt Jesus and then closes the class with a short encouragement from scripture and prays over the class.

**This update is full of encouragement and felt like a full-circle moment—from meeting her my first week on campus and challenging her to pray and share her faith in her sorority, to now seeing a move of God generations later in Kappa Delta! I am thankful to know she is walking with God and leading many women to the hope of Jesus as a nurse and cycling instructor.**



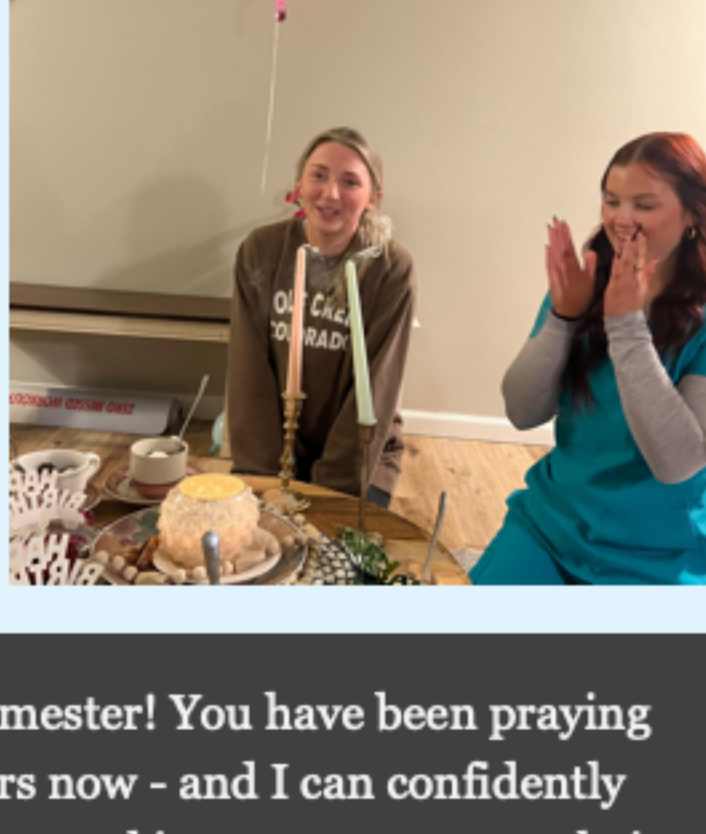
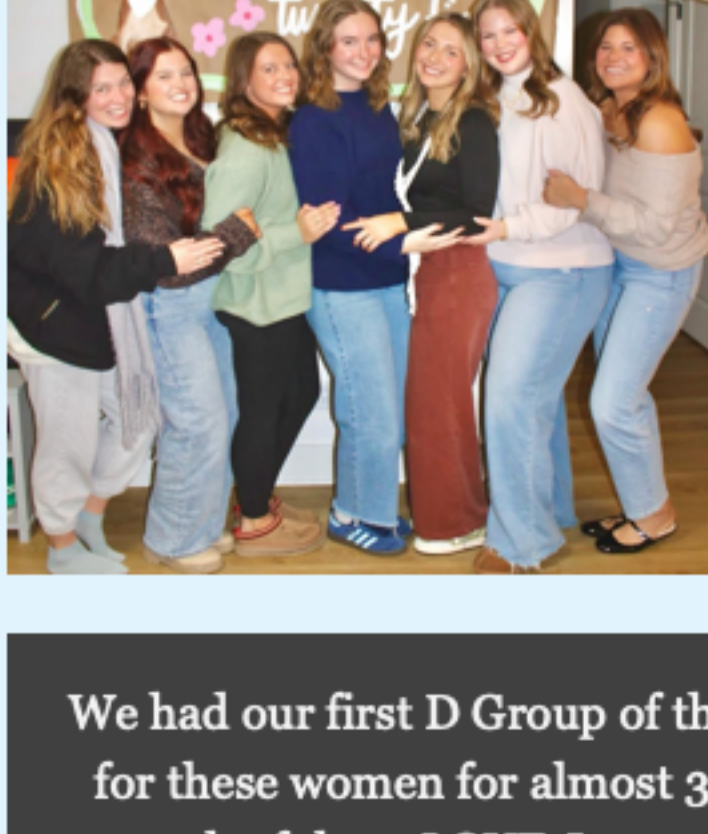
God is on the move on the **soccer team**! I've been meeting with Delaney and Abigail on Wednesday mornings at 7am to walk through their weekly Bible study. This semester, they're answering a question submitted by a teammate each week and exploring how God's Word speaks to it. This past week's question was, **"How do I experience repentance without shame?"** Please join me in praying for these young women—that the girls would see more of Jesus, and that someone who has never attended before **would come and hear the gospel**. We are still praying for Ebba!



Last Wednesday night we had a women's night called "You're Invited". This event came from dreaming for how I could better encourage **unity for the women on campus** that typically cling to their respective affinities. I am dreaming of a day where there is a table of women from all pockets of campus that may serve as a dim picture of one day seeing every tribe, tongue, and nation worshipping Jesus.

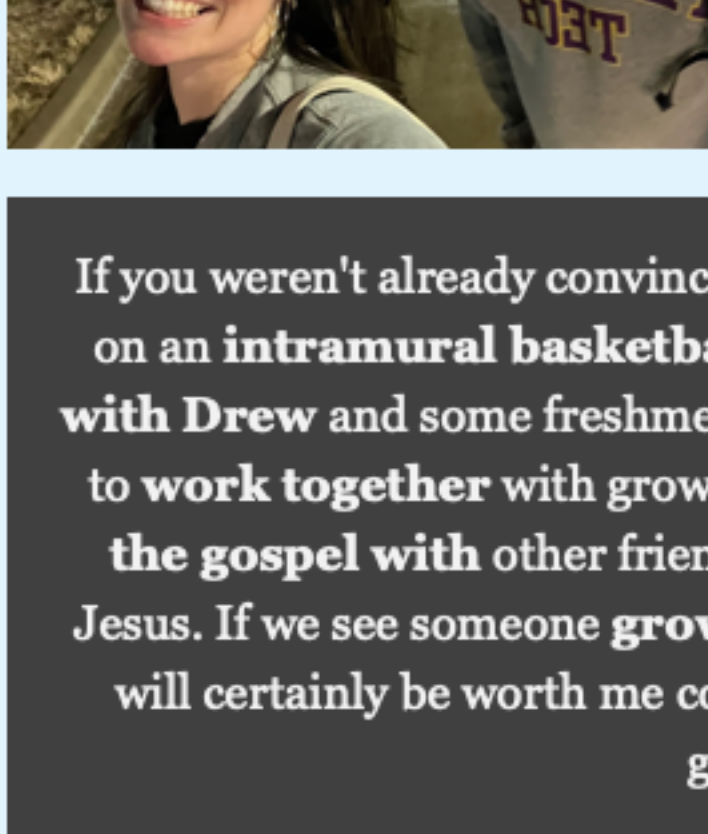
I led a Bible Study discussion on John 4 taking about how **God's ultimate invitation to us changes everything about how we engage with/invite others**.

God has also been so kind to connect us with someone who came to Christ through Campus Outreach at TTU years ago that owns this event space and let us use it for free! We are SO grateful!!! I met one of the girls working as I was setting up and she is a student at Tech. She had told me she wants to believe in God but has a hard time understanding His love and what He's like. I invited her that night and she came and heard the gospel! Please pray for Lilly as I hopefully get to meet with her soon and pray she would put her faith in Christ! Her boyfriend is also on the Rugby team at Tech where Drew has been doing ministry so we hope to have them over for dinner soon and see them both grow!

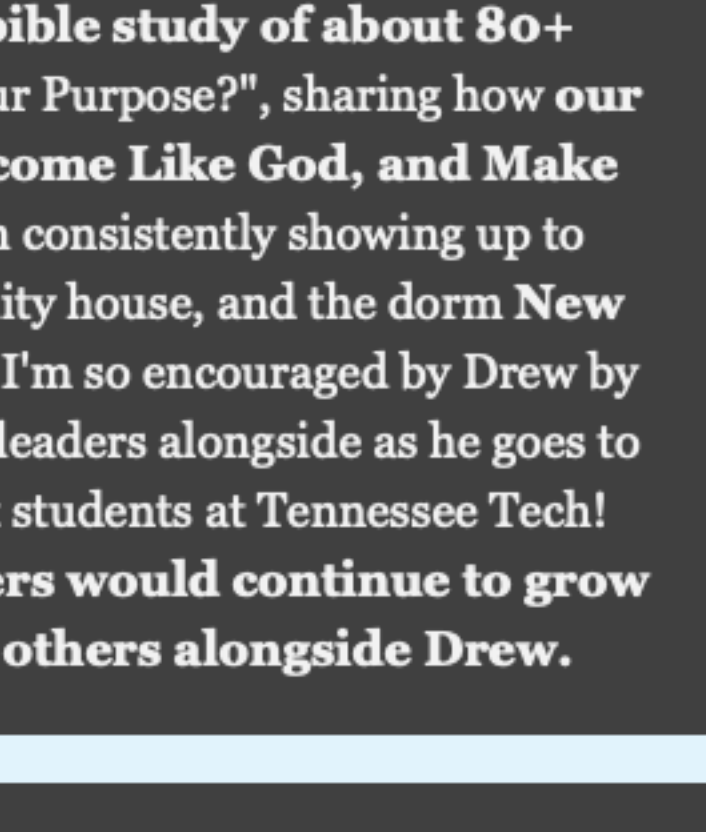
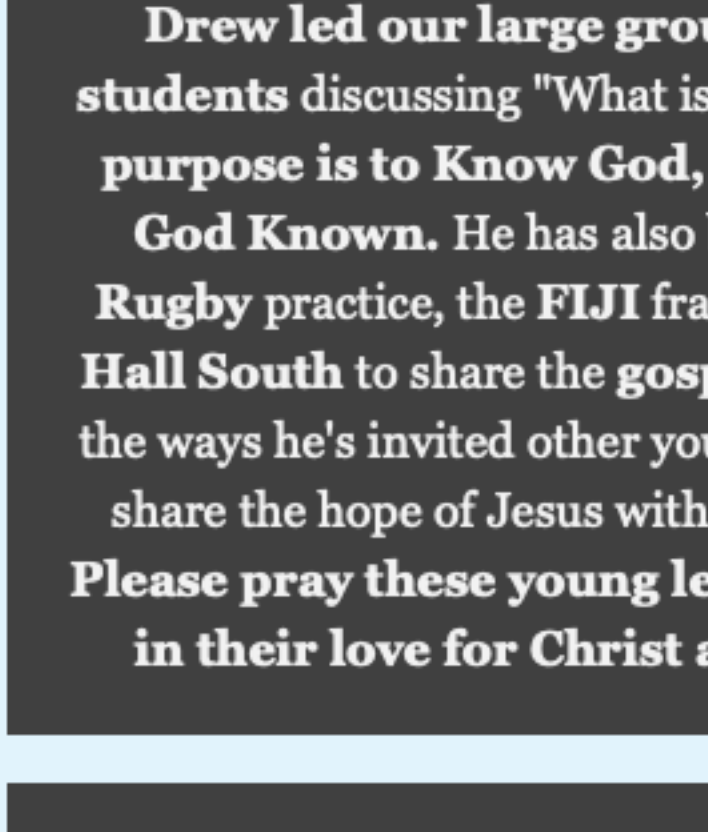


We had our first D Group of the semester! You have been praying for these women for almost 3 years now - and I can confidently say each of them LOVE Jesus and are seeking ways to engage their sororities for Christ. We've been having lots to celebrate! Please pray for us! If you think of us, please pray Colossians 2:6-7 over us!

(From left: Myself, Emma, Lizzie, Mara, Sydney, Ainsley, and Abby (from top picture!) (not pictured: Ella)



If you weren't already convinced God is on the move, I'm playing on an **intramural basketball team** (it's okay you can laugh) with Drew and some freshmen from the dorms. We're doing this to **work together** with growing Christians who want to **share the gospel** with other friends on the team who don't know Jesus. If we see someone **grow in their interest for Christ**, it will certainly be worth me coming out of retirement from 5th grade.



**Drew led our large group bible study of about 80+ students** discussing "What is Your Purpose?", sharing how **our purpose is to Know God, Become Like God, and Make God Known**. He has also been consistently showing up to Rugby practice, the FIJI fraternity house, and the dorm New Hall South to share the **gospel**. I'm so encouraged by Drew by the ways he's invited other young leaders alongside as he goes to share the hope of Jesus with lost students at Tennessee Tech! Please pray these young leaders would continue to grow in their love for Christ and others alongside Drew.

**Please pray for our Spring Retreat coming up!** We are going to Gatlinburg with UTK, MTSU, and TTU to enjoy a retreat with the theme of "Global Impact". The theme will be gospel-centric and encourage students with how Christ's call doesn't just end with us. (Matthew 28:18-20) This will be February 20th-22nd! Pray that people who may not ever think they'd be interested in a retreat would sign up, hear the gospel, and come to faith in Christ! I am also praying that the students who are already believers would have a refreshing and restful weekend to grow!

**Health update for Maggie:** Thank you so so so very much for praying for me!!!! I truly believe I have been sustained by God's grace through your prayer. Long story short, my **jaw pain has been increasingly minimal** since having a tooth removed that was exacerbating the pain.

**(God story!** My pain peaked to a place I didn't think it could go during the ice storms. **No one was open**. No emergency dentistry - nothing. Drew and I had sleepless nights separated by tears and OTC pain medication that didn't seemed to help. I re-called an oral surgeon whose practice was 3 minutes from our house I had called a day prior to hear him say I either needed to drive to Chattanooga or wait 4 more days. Drew and I were at our end and begging God to do something. He texted my number back immediately after the call and told us he'd come open his office just for me that afternoon.) Since the extraction, I have recovered well and truly feel like **God has revived my physical body** along with my soul. We are amazed. We still have a road ahead of us in this process, but feel wildly encouraged by the major stride of healing! **Praise the Lord**. Praise the Lord!!!!

**We love you so very much. And we need you!**

*Please let us know if there is anything we can do to bless you! Thank you for your partnership.*

Cheering you on,

Drew and Maggie De Sanctis