

## WE GO WITH JESUS TO WHERE PEOPLE ARE

We are a family of three communities (or chapters as we call it) at Ohio State. Our strategy of multiple ministries is a different approach; but it was based on one premise: **we go where students are and help bring them closer to Jesus.**

We look at how Jesus crossed barriers; and we try to model that in our own ministry. **We ask ourselves—where are students? And we go there.**

And yet we don't stay there; because we have found **that we better understand ourselves and others when we follow Jesus' example and cross-cultural barriers.**

From groups gathering in the residence halls, sororities, fraternities, cultural centers, student organizations...to wherever we grow next, we bring the presence of Jesus into all areas of the campus. **And we, like Jesus, go to where people are instead of expecting them to come to us.**

## JUST SAY NO TO BAD BIBLE STUDY

Sick of boring Bible study? So are we! **We think boring Bible study is miserable.**

If studying God's grand story is dull, then perhaps something is wrong with the approach.

We look at the study of God's Word **not as trying to get the right answers to a set of canned questions, but as a divine encounter** where we bring our experiences and questions from our own lives into God's grand story and see how the Bible is so much more than just "good advice." We love God's story so much with the nuances of its characters and subtleties of plots that have so much to show us about ourselves.

And we do so by wrestling with the Scriptures, **setting aside the fear of asking tough questions of both the text and ourselves.** Because there is at least one thing worse than bad Bible study: not being honest about the impact the Scriptures should have on our everyday lives.

## INTERVARSITY®

OUR VISION IS TO SEE:  
**STUDENTS  
& FACULTY  
TRANSFORMED**  
*campuses* **RENEWED**  
**& WORLD  
CHANGERS**  
**DEVELOPED**

<http://intervarsityosu.org/>

## SO, THERE ARE A LOT OF MINISTRIES AND CHURCHES ON CAMPUS. WHAT IS INTERVARSITY?

### A STUDENT MINISTRY, NOT A MINISTRY TO STUDENTS

We believe it's vitally important for students to be the leaders in the ministries we have on campus. It's why the staff focus on the development of the leaders, both men and women, in our ministries—so that they can lead others.

Staff operate under the conviction of developing indigenous student leadership that will continue the ministry that has been faithfully handed down from student generation to generation. **For nearly 67 years, InterVarsity at Ohio State has been a student led movement.**

Student leadership is one of the hallmarks of InterVarsity at Ohio State. We believe it's vitally important **to train the next generation of leaders of the church by reaching Ohio State today.**

### FRIENDSHIPS; NOT FORMULA

Students are looking now, more than ever, for authentic friendships. **And a friendship with an agenda really isn't a friendship, is it?**

Formulas may work in the classroom, but friendships are God-given gifts that are enormously complex. Relationships get messy sometimes; that's not always a bad thing. We aren't conduits of information; **we are beings designed for relationship.**

We hope our friends move closer to Jesus; but we also recognize that that is also their decision. Whether it be growing your relationship with God (discipleship) or starting a relationship with him (evangelism), both involve friendship. Jesus called his disciples friends; it's our conviction to do the same. **We pursue God together in the company of friends.**

### DEMONSTRATING AND PROCLAIMING THE MESSAGE OF JESUS

We believe it's important to proclaim the message of the gospel—Jesus told us to do so. But, also, we believe it is just as important to embody the message of the gospel. Our lives are transformed because of Jesus, he has **rescued us from our personal sin** that keeps us out of right relationship with God, but **Jesus has rescued us from the apathy and indifference** that perpetuates the systemic sin all over the world.

The message cannot be divorced from the messenger. This is why InterVarsity at Ohio State continually participates in addressing social issues such as human trafficking, injustice, racism and HIV AIDS in concert with helping students explore the person of Jesus.

When Jesus said that the Kingdom of God is good news, he meant it! **So should we!**

### NOT JUST CATCHING FISH—CHANGING THE POND

It's important to see the **transformation of individuals**; but we also affirm that we see the **system that produces the individuals transformed as well.**

For us, this means that **part of our focus means renewing the university.**

We believe that it's important to engage the university with the gospel in an academically credible manner—that **we learn to love God also with our minds.**

InterVarsity on a national level has some phenomenal programs that are intended on gathering faculty and staff of universities in addition to the students to become worshippers of God.