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PRAYER

We pray that the lives of many would be transformed through our ministries. We pray for boldness as we speak of Christ, that you would direct us to those hungering and thirsting for spiritual reality, to those longing for a healing touch to their brokenness. And we pray for your continued transforming work in each of our communities. We ask that you would raise up a generation of people prepared to be salt and light in their workplaces, the rebuilders of walls in their communities, and the seekers of justice for all.

May your kingdom come and your will be done on the University of Queensland, Queensland University of Technology, Griffith University and all the university campuses in our state of Queensland. We pray all this in the name of Jesus Christ to God's greater glory. Amen.

*Adapted from A Prayer For Campus Ministries And Churches
By Micheal Hickerson*

WARM UP (OPTIONAL)

If there was one course you could take under one teacher, what would the course be and who would you have teach you?

WORD

¹¹ Soon afterward he went to a town called Nain, and his disciples and a great crowd went with him. ¹² As he drew near to the gate of the town, behold, a man who had died was being carried out, the only son of his mother, and she was a widow, and a considerable crowd from the town was with her. ¹³ And when the Lord saw her, he had compassion on her and said to her, "Do not weep." . . .

[LUKE 7:11-17](#)

When we see Jesus' heart to break past tradition in order to see this young man rise from the dead, we know that God would have us all do whatever it takes to reach the young people in our schools and campuses of our city. From one of Every Nation's founders, Dr Rice Brooks, here are some reasons campus ministry is important.

The future leaders of society are on our campuses.

Virtually all of the world's presidents, prime ministers, senators, members of parliaments, bankers, lawyers, judges, teachers, doctors, and business leaders have passed through the college and university system. In every critical aspect of a nation's culture, the campus is where we find the future influencers.

Major movements, bad or good, start on the campus.

From spiritual revival to political revolution, the campus gives birth to change. Marxism, atheism, feminism, and practically every other "ism" that has spread around the world at one time started as a tiny seed on the university campus.

The majority of those who become Christians do so as students.

Countless studies continue to confirm that most people surrender to Christ before their twenty-fifth birthday. This hits close to home. Many of our current leaders responded to the gospel before their twenty-fifth birthday.

International students impact their nations.

International students represent the top one percent of the students in their home nations. Many of these students come from nations that restrict or ban the gospel. By reaching them while they're on our campuses and sending them home with the gospel, we can broaden the gospel's reach in the world.

The values on campus become the values in society.

The philosophy, morality, and ethics taught by professors on university campuses slowly but surely work their way into public policy, media, and education. Those ideas and values become preserved for decades through legislation, education, music, movies, literature, and media.

The most available and trainable groups of people are on our campuses.

Since they have few obligations, students have few limitations to following Christ and serving him boldly. The campus is not only the source of the next generation of business, government, and educational leaders, but it's also where we find the next generation of church leaders and cross-cultural missionaries.

When we reach a student, we reach a family.

Moms, dads, brothers, and sisters are often impacted by the stories from students who return home with a changed life. The New Testament pattern of church growth showed entire families turning to Christ. That hasn't changed. One weekend home visit from a student transformed by the gospel can start a spiritual chain reaction that impacts every member of their family.

God promised to pour out his Spirit on sons and daughters ([Acts 2:17](#)).

In other words, we should anticipate and hope for an enormous awakening in the younger generations of the world. We have to be prepared to handle this abundance by sending missionaries who are equipped and empowered to make disciples in colleges and high schools.

GUIDE QUESTIONS

(NUMBERED ACCORDING TO LEVEL OF DEPTH AND READINESS TO SHARE)

1. How are you? Are you dealing with the need for God's comfort at this time?
2. On a scale from 1-10 (1 = none at all; 10 = extremely), how would you rate your awareness of the culture that young people in our city are in today? Why might you say this?
3. In verses 12-14 above, Jesus interrupts the procession of a funeral of a young man, comforts his mother, and culturally touches the body to see it resurrected. What does this say of Christ and his heart to resurrect young people to life?
4. If Jesus is willing to touch the youth and young adults of this generation, what can you personally do to help bring Christ's resurrecting love to this generation?
5. If you are a follower of Jesus, how can you comfort the mourning in this season?
6. If you are not yet a follower of Jesus, would you be willing to acknowledge him as your Lord, and enable him to have all authority as the one who calls the shots in your life? Would you like to enter into a saving relationship with God through Jesus? Ask your Life Group leader to lead you in prayer to receive Christ. You can pray this prayer:

Dear Lord Jesus, I know that I am a sinner, and I ask for your forgiveness. I believe you died for my sins and rose from the dead. I turn from my sins and invite you to come into my heart and life. I want to trust and follow you as my Lord and Saviour. In Jesus' name, Amen.