

November 2007

Dear Friends and Supporters,

One of the challenges of student ministry is facing one's fears. Students are challenged to take ownership of their faith and to share it openly with those around them. I have asked our leadership team to share some of their hopes and fears, so that you can have a sense of what they see as the challenges that they face at UNB and STU. Not only are these four students trying to be bold in their own growth and witness, but they have stepped up as VCF leaders, taking on the task of involving other student Christians in campus mission.

Arturo: "My greatest fears as a [student] leader consists mainly of personal failure and doubts about my own capabilities to lead. This is the first time I have taken this kind of leadership role and I often find myself unqualified and lacking. I am slowly learning to rely on God for I can do nothing alone, but with His help I can do anything."

Alan: "I sometimes fear that the Inter-Varsity group will fail to live up to its calling to be God's witnesses and God's representatives at UNB and STU. Also, I sometimes fear that significant investments of time may fail to have a lasting impact on the lives of those in the IV group."

Bethany: "I was basically afraid that I'd be an ineffective leader. I was concerned our ideas and vision would not be well taken by or even grasped by the large group. We had to be prepared that not everyone was going to be receptive to what we had planned and that numbers might drop, but I wasn't fully prepared for that until it happened. Numbers have dropped, and this worries me; however, we have been blessed with many new faces at VCF who are eager to study Scripture. The increase in new committed regulars was not something I had anticipated, and has been very encouraging. The leadership team has really come together nicely and it has been a great source of support. God has been teaching us a lot and has blessed us richly in these first few months."

Sarah: "Going into this year, I knew that I was going to be very busy with all that the life of a university student entails. In all of my business, I have found our executive to be a constant support and help and encouragement. I have learned a lot about leadership in my few months serving God in this way, and God has revealed to me little snippets of Himself through our time together, as an executive and as a large group, through our study of Acts, and through our mission focus on our campuses. God is good and He is working here in Fredericton!"

With these reflections of hope and fear, I trust you will be able to pray more concretely for students who are seeking to be witnesses on our campuses. I would also request your prayer for two students who have joined VCF this year but are not yet followers of Jesus—may they meet him in their encounter with Christian students. Your faithful prayer support is integral to the students' work in VCF. You are their fellow-workers in bringing the good news of God's love in Jesus Christ to the student world.

Blessings,

Scott

Scott's personal update:

As we come close to the end of term and the year, I am happy to report that my financial support has increased. Compared to six months ago, monthly giving has increased by more than half. I am very grateful that there has been openness to the support of the ministry by individuals and churches. The following figures show what is needed to meet my 2007-2008 budget.

Amount committed to date: Average Monthly: \$1781 Annually: \$14,249

Additional amount needed: Average Monthly: \$3134 Annually: \$44,731

Please pray that I will continue to make contact with those who are concerned for student ministry. I would be happy to meet with you if you would like to discuss a financial contribution. If you would prefer to do so electronically, there is a link at www.ivcf.ca