

## The Real Reason

Excitement and joy are filling the air;  
The lights add special decor.  
We're shopping for Christmas gifts everywhere,  
But are gifts what Christmas is for?

The wreaths and the trees and the parties  
Aren't what we need to convey;  
It's the birth of our Savior, Jesus,  
The real reason for this holiday.  
*By Karl and Joanna Fuchs*

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The LORD reigns, let the earth be glad; let the distant shores  
rejoice. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior,  
who is Christ the Lord.  
Psalm 97:1 & Luke 2:11

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## Sforza-mark

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Thank you for teaming with us in reaching lost souls!  
Have an excellent time with family and Jesus this holiday season!



What better way to crown our and your joy this Christmas season than to recount how Christ's glorious birth is never ceasing to impute life to those that were fallen, hurting and adrift in sin.

Ten months ago at Rutgers University, Steve invited his fraternity brother, Dave, to an outreach focusing on introducing students to Jesus. Interested in all things Bible, Dave persisted in going out to weekly Bible studies and asking countless questions about Jesus. Steve ensured Dave had God's word to read, and Esther, a NJ staff member, shared the gospel with him one on one.

In regularly hearing God's word through friends and laborers, as well as being loved by them, Dave offered his heart to Jesus and just recently got baptized! He's consistently attending a small group study as well as a local church! Although it wasn't instant, Dave's steady road to salvation in Christ is stimulation to never resign from being a lost soul's light.

Also at Rutgers, there was an event in which the focus was that Jesus is more satisfying than the selfish party life. A recent convert as of this summer, Santei, told of how God salvaged him from his drinking lifestyle to a brimming life in Christ. Several non-Christians got to hear great news that day!

At Monmouth University, two Christian freshmen, Will and Cyrus, commenced a men's small group in obedience to the Lord. A curious non-Christian senior, Chip, has been faithfully attending the meetings in hopes of understanding Christianity more fully. Will and Cyrus are calmly and warmly speaking life to chip. Pray that he chooses Life!

As a proper finish, here are rapid-fire testimonies:

- Kean University: Monique came to faith in Christ with staff member Tabitha and student Sharon. She was very excited. Tabitha has seen her 3 times since.
- At Ramapo University, loads of freshmen have been boldly seeking the lost with QuEST surveys, a unique interview tool used to open up a gospel conversation.
- At Farleigh Dickinson University, staff member Maria prayed with a Jewish girl, whose roommate is a Messianic Jew. She's since asked if Cru (CCC) can put together another Pizza and God, an outreach where non-Christians are encouraged to share their distinctive beliefs.
- At Montclair University, there is a daringly loving focus on the Muslim and gay communities.

Please persevere in praying for everyone mentioned above. Pray that they are led only by His Holy Spirit. Also, please pray that the thousand plus students attending *Radiate: Dispel the Darkness*, our regional conference, are emboldened and fed well, so they can joyfully return to their campuses as ready laborers. And please pray for us and the other staff. We need Christ to remind us daily that the heavenly work is not complete until he returns.

### **LAST YEAR'S REGIONAL CONFERENCE:**

