

# The Verity Good Report

Newsletter of the Verity Institute

September 12, 2008 • Vol. 2, No. 5

## Journey to God's Power

Verity began the new school year with a week-long Journey to God's Power. Seventy-three students and staff traveled 10 hours by bus and van from Indianapolis, Indiana to the Upper Peninsula of Michigan.

The first teaching of the week began while still en route by bus, as students benefited from a message by Otto Koning: "God Loves the Impossible." A student listening realized, "God wants us to obey Him in all things, no matter how absurd they may seem at first. God can give us the grace to do what seems impossible." Everyone arrived at the Northwoods Conference Center that evening to a warm reception and delicious dinner.



Wednesday morning began with a time of team devotions. One student commented, "My small group sessions were filled with people being real, acknowledging their weaknesses, and asking for prayer. This takes humility, and God rewards the humble and

hears their cry." After early devotions the group heard about the "Biblical View of Anointing" presented by Dr. Bill Gothard, the Chancellor of Verity. Brittany Richmeier, a returning Verity student, shared a powerful testimony of God's healing hand on her life through applying the principles that were taught.

God used a message by Paul Washer that evening to set the stage for the duration of the trip. The message held lukewarm Christians at sword point and challenged them to live hot lives for Christ. One student



wrote, "I was unaware that it would be at that beautiful resort that the Lord would shatter me to pieces as I broke down under His mercies. The trip of relaxation I expected turned into the most humbling experience I have ever had."

Thursday was characterized by two creative messages: "How to Love God—With a Clean Room!" by Dr. Bill Gothard; and "Entertaining the Presence of God" by Doug Small. With these two messages, paradigms began





to be shifted and God spoke. After the Clean Room message a student exclaimed, "My heart needs to be a clean place for Him to rule. There is not enough room for my junk!" A student remarked on prayer: "I want to have

a prayer time that is talking to God where He is in our very midst." The students that gathered in prayer after hearing the message by Doug Small found that very thing. "I 'talked' with God and felt secure in the knowledge that He would never leave me nor forsake me, and that I could cast all my cares on Him because He cares for me" one student remembered.

On the last day of the Journey Dr. Gothard spoke on the distinction of the Lord's Supper and Communion. Then—as a special treat—the entire student body was taken to a nearby waterfall, Bond Falls. One staff member recalled: "Seeing God's majesty in the falls makes Him feel so real." Staff and students alike saw God's power through creation that many have never experienced before. That night after observing the Lord's Supper and Communion, a spontaneous and powerful time of testimony began. "The testimonies I heard, the examples I observed in the lives of others, and what was shared in our small-group times—they all inspired me...God taught not only through the organized teachings, but through other people who allowed Him to shine through them."

Throughout the week Dr. Gothard spent individual time with each student in attendance. One student recalls, "Knowing that I am a music major, Dr. Gothard

showed me how this would directly relate to my life through the area of music, and of God's ability to work through me."



One student summarized the benefits of a school-wide journey: "...being with each other in small groups, praying for each other and sharing the burdens on our hearts went a long way in bringing us together as a class." Another student added to the importance of class unity, "Together we can reach the nation. Together we can raise a people of Godliness. Together we can accomplish what neither I nor anyone else could do alone." Another student expressed her delight in what God did in that week, "God works above and beyond anything I ever think is possible, and I praise Him for all the work that He has started and is working toward completing."

— *Written by the Verity Classes of 2009 and 2010; Compiled by Chéri Anderson*



*Everyone enjoyed the beautiful, natural setting of the Northwoods Conference Center, with activities including boating, volleyball, hiking to a nearby waterfall, eating outside, and worshipping the Lord in music.*

