



# BEYOND THE BOWLS

*Tired* after 35 bowl games? Well, Clemson *did* play West Virginia in the Orange Bowl. But there is a campus story *off* the gridiron you won't find on ESPN... And you helped make it possible.

## CLEMSON

A group of 16 Christian professors took out a full page ad in the student newspaper last semester and invited students to respond and learn about a relationship with Christ. They included links to our website [MeetTheProf.com] where hundreds of students viewed their personal testimonies about Christ. Here are two professors whose stories were among the most widely read by Clemson students:



**Dr. Ashley Cowden** (left) is a professor of English. She says on her webpage, that what she values is God's love for her despite her failings and imperfections.

- Jennifer, one of Dr. Cowden's students, commented :  
"It's so exciting to have a professor that I can also call my sister in Christ! Thanks for standing up for what you believe and for being available to your students."



**Professor Marianne Glaser** (left) is another Clemson faculty member who tells her story through our website:

"...Here is what everyone saw on the outside: honor student, student council, captain of the cheerleading squad, and voted Best All-Around by my peers. This was the life I presented to everyone everyday.

"Here's the truth, on the inside I was empty, felt alone, unfulfilled, and eventually began to have suicidal thoughts. It was a life in severe turmoil, one of complete polar opposites, and on top of it all, no one knew.

"I had everyone, including my family and best friends, fooled. They saw 'best all-around,' but the truth was I was dying inside. My heart and soul ached for something to fill the void I felt in my life.

"I was driving to all-star cheerleading practice in Easley, SC and was at my breaking point. As I approached the bridge on Hwy 123 in Liberty, I decided this was it. I was either going over the bridge or not...

"Crying and screaming, I cried out to God, 'God help me! Please help me!' It was instantaneous, almost euphoric. At that exact second, I knew my life had changed. I had asked God into my life and he said yes."

### Students Responded:

- Jen: "Your story is one that so many others have struggled with."
- Frederick: "While I enjoyed being your student last semester, I appreciate this more. At the risk of sounding cheesy, I want to tell you that it resonated with me and has been encouraging."

# Why God Isn't *Safe*

Lucy: "Is he--quite safe? I shall feel rather nervous about meeting a lion."

Mr. Beaver: "Safe? Don't you hear what Mrs. Beaver tells you? Of course he isn't safe... but... he's GOOD... He's the King."

*from The Lion, The Witch and the Wardrobe*



This week marks the start of another semester of classes at America's universities.

Being a Christian on campus isn't *safe* — it's easier to blend in and make faith a private thing, especially as a professor. Here are a few words from Dr. Phil Bishop, (below) whom I have had the privilege of working with these past 10 years. He is a professor of kinesiology at the University of Alabama, and has been a mentor and traveling companion on several trips together to Latin American campuses:



"Simply identifying yourself as a Christian on a secular campus can yield a thrill or two. In my case I was once officially prohibited from even mentioning Christianity on my campus.

On the other hand, I have been commended by students and friends for doing that same thing. You never know what'll happen next!

"In my academic travels I have spoken to and worked with Christian college students in Costa Rica, the Philippines, Haiti, Switzerland, England, and even in the USA. I have been stranded away from home by 9-11, by a hurricane in Mexico with Steve Pogue and by a volcano in Iceland.

I've been surprised, thrilled, disappointed, and inspired! I can't wait to see what'll happen next time."

**Thanks** for making it possible for us to work with professors, staff, and students to make Christ known on campus.

— *Steve & Sarah*

