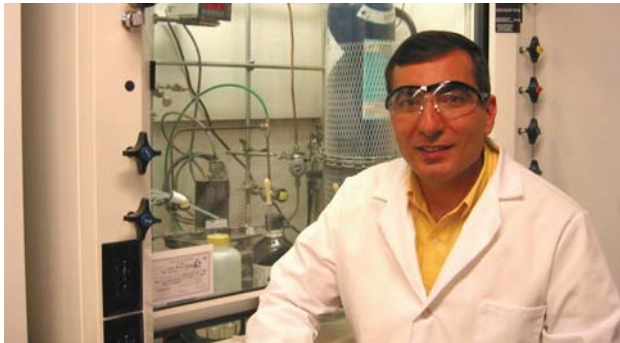


# Encouraging Signs

March 2013



## University of North Texas

Last month Dr. Jim Tour (Chemistry, Rice University) presented a lunchtime seminar at North Texas entitled "Nanotechnology and Jesus Christ." Nearly 100 professors and students attended. Here is some of what he said:

"In high school I wanted to be a New York state trooper, but I am colorblind, so I was turned down. I went to Syracuse University, and because I listened to my dad, majored in chemistry. I fell in love with it; I would do extra, unassigned problems in our textbooks for the sheer joy of learning.

## "I Will Tell You My Story..."

"I am not a theologian or philosopher. So I won't debate you today on these points. But I will tell you my story about my interest in Jesus Christ, just as I told you about my interest in chemistry and how it became so important to me....

"My freshman year of college I became a Christian. I was doing laundry one night and met a student who showed me the Bible for the first time. He began with Romans 3:23. The more we talked, the more I realized that I was a sinner, and needed Christ's forgiveness.

"Today as a professor, the commandments and teachings of the Scriptures greatly influence the manner in which I conduct myself in all private and professional settings, from my speech, to my management of funds, to my treatment of colleagues and students."

Sometimes it's easy to be discouraged by the latest news in the world....we are SO encouraged by what is happening among faculty on these campuses, and many others!

## Texas Woman's University



Gary is an administrator at Texas Woman's University. The campus (*above*) has been experiencing steady growth the past five years. "I have been praying that God will bring Christian administrators and professors together on campus," he told me over lunch one day. "And I believe He wants me to help organize this."

There were 23 professors and administrators who gathered on Ash Wednesday to hear Sam Matteson, a professor from North Texas talk about "Touching Cactus People." For many of these people it was the first chance to be with this large a group of Christians on campus. Several of them shared how they have felt isolated as believers, and looked forward to the opportunity to be with other Christians.

"People Are Watching  
How You React"

Matteson shared how he has found ways to make his faith known to others - especially in times when he was mistreated. "I learned that people are always watching to see how you react, and that much of our witness is by what we choose not to do, or not to say," he explained. "Showing grace to difficult people then opens opportunities to talk about Christ."

Later this month a small group of professors and administrators will begin planning ways to make Christ known among more of the leadership of the university.

*Please pray for the Christian witness of these professors and administrators.*

*-- Steve & Sarah*