

The Power to Care



By Brittany Jeanloz

The idea of giving spiritual care in the hospital is petrifying and yet, every time the Holy Spirit grants me a sense of calmness and motivation. I constantly pray throughout the practicum and afterwards as I reflect on the day. A verse that has encouraged me is 1 Corinthians 2:4-5. "My message and my preaching were not with wise and persuasive words, but with a demonstration of the Spirit's power, so that your faith might not rest on men's wisdom, but on God's power." What do I have to worry about? God is all-powerful and I am called to be a vessel to pour out the love of Christ onto others. I'm amazed that God would use me to make a difference.

Welcome Home



By Melissa Wierman

Alumni were able to join the preceptorship this year for a reunion to reflect on the time of their learning and be reminded of the calling of spiritual care in medical practice.

Amy Birdsong, who attended the 2008 preceptorship said, "The METS reunion was such a time of encouragement for me! I left with a renewed vision for Whole Person Care and a greater passion to see my colleagues come to Christ. It was a privilege to hear Dr. Chen share, and I was challenged by his humble, obedient spirit. The rich fellowship with alumni was evidence that it truly is a summer that lasts a lifetime!"

METS Preceptorship 2010

The Journey

June 12 - July 14 2010

Getting There is Half the Journey

By Krysta Arnold

The preceptorship started to influence my faith even before I set foot in California. I looked forward to all that I would learn about whole person care, but I also wondered how I was going to raise enough funds. I felt like "ye of little faith" at times; however, the Lord was faithful to remind me to keep my eyes fixed on Him. After all, everything belongs to Him. He provides and equips. God supplied me with some small jobs, but mostly used other people to support me financially.

At times I would receive a couple letters in the mail from friends and family, but there were other days I would receive nothing. When asked how I expected to pay for the trip, I would respond that I trusted the Lord to provide. Today I boast in the Lord that He is faithful, supplying my every need, financially and otherwise.

As I reflect on how the Lord has perfectly orchestrated every aspect to allow me to be here this summer, I am reminded of Isaiah 25:1. "Indeed, I praise the Lord for He has worked with perfect faithfulness His plans concerning me." I would like to thank everyone who supports this ministry. God has used you to bless and encourage us greatly!

How has METS affected the way you see your patients?



"Coming into METS with little patient contact and no preconceived notions, I'm thrilled to learn whole person care the first time around." -Klaireece Fitch

"Addressing spiritual issues is not something you do extra when you have time. It is essential to understanding each patient." -Misha Lomize



"It is by God's grace that we are on this side of the desk." -Dr. Harvey Elder



Whole Person Care Conference

By Michelle VonSpreckelsen

We kicked off the first four days of the preceptorship with the METS conference where we were joined with other health professionals and students to learn more about whole person care. The METS conference is designed for students in health care professional to offer specialized training to help meet the spiritual needs of patients.

Some of the things students gained from the conference are:

1. Taking a spiritual history
2. Learning how to present the gospel and our personal testimony
3. Developing skills in handling questions from interested patients, colleagues, and others
4. Meeting health professionals who are excited about bringing Christ into their practice
5. Listening to and gaining insights from experienced mentors
6. Being able to practice what we learned in the local hospital



Practicums at Loma Linda

A Summer That Lasts A Lifetime

An Unlikely Story of Salvation

By Kendra Cooper

It takes one physician or nurse two minutes to look at the body of an individual, tell them the problem, and walk away, potentially leaving that person in a state of despair. Likewise, two minutes can involve a question, *listen* to the patient's response, understand the deep concerns of their heart, pray with them, and walk away giving them one of the most beneficial treatments they may ever receive. How can it be that something so vital, a person's inner being and the very state of their soul, can be counted as trivial in the world of modern medicine that most professionals make light the issue or ignore it altogether? During my first experience at the hospital, we were able to interact with a patient who, in my eyes, wasn't able to understand anything we were sharing with him. Even though it was difficult for him to respond, he was happy to talk to us, and we eventually asked him if his illness changed the way he related to God. I thought to myself "He's not going to understand this at all." Surprisingly, he blurted out, "I love!" It was a very humbling moment. God showed me that my own opinion and knowledge of the situation was limited and that He was at work there long before I arrived on the scene. We shared the *Knowing God Personally*, and this man prayed to receive Christ into his heart! I was shocked and overjoyed. In the hallway, we were approached by his doctor who inquired what we had been talking about. After explaining, he looked at us and said, "The man in that room may not look like it, but he understood every word you just said. He's autistic but an incredibly bright individual. Even though he didn't speak much, in his mind he knew what was going on." I was humbled even more. God has since been helping me understand that I have no right to pick and choose which patients I will share with because of who *I think* will comprehend the gospel best.

Alumni come to visit

Dr. Chen with students



Brokenness: Being a Vessel God can Use

Teaching By Ana DePuy
Article By Molly Mennenega

Brokenness: continually dying to your own self will and surrendering yourself to God's will. King David's cry to the Lord in Psalm 51 says, "You do not delight in sacrifice, or I would bring it... The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise." A pleasing offering to the Lord is a broken spirit. But brokenness is the exact opposite mentality most of us are used to. In medical training, students are taught to treat people's symptoms and maintain function. In trying to "keep it all together," we tend to rely on our own strength and agenda, which prevents God from infiltrating every area of our lives. We often don't realize that we are still unbroken before God, thus limiting God's plans and purpose for our lives. So what does a broken vessel look like? We allow Jesus to shed light on the hurtful areas we have avoided, placing them in God's hands. When we accept God's forgiveness and let Him cleanse our lives, we can then go out and be the vessel in which He pours out His love. In Isaiah 6:3-8, God's greatness, holiness and majesty overwhelms Isaiah: it is then that he sees the sin in his own life. In God's presence, he sees how he is "ruined, a man of unclean lips" and undeserving of the position as a servant of the Lord. But, God isn't done with him! Isaiah went to God with his brokenness, and the Lord forgave him. And, next to that, God wants to use him! He says, "Whom shall I send?" and Isaiah replies, "Here am I. Send me." What a turn-around! God wants to use us, but we have to be broken before him and understand we are just the vessel and we cannot do anything apart from Jesus Christ! In our brokenness we realize the need for our Savior, and only then are we willing and ready to replace our own agenda for Christ's. And just like Isaiah, our reply to our Lord and Savior will be "I'll go. Send me."

Seeing the Deeper Need

By Andrew Wai

Coming to METS allowed me to take a step back from practicing clinical medicine and see my patients the way God sees them: as people with immense worth and value and therefore deserving of whole person care, not just medical care. In my third year of medical school, I often made the assumption that my patients didn't need or want spiritual care; however, through METS I learned that they not only want it, but they want a lot of it. Ultimately, METS awakened me from my slumber with regards to integral parts of my faith such as sharing the Gospel and discipleship. It has been refreshing to have my understanding of God enlarged through this preceptorship.



The Social Calendar

June 23	A Day In L.A.- Hollywood, Getty Museum, Santa Monica Pier
June 26	San Diego- Beach Day, Snorkel & Kayak, Visiting Corona Del Mar, Extraordinary Desserts
July 4	Saddleback Church, Laguna Beach, Downtown Disney Fireworks
July 5	A Day of Service for our Mentors!
July 10-13	Visiting Arizona Clinics



A New Perception

By Melissa Howard

I have just seen God break down so many barriers as He gently, yet powerfully, reminds me how small I am and how big and capable He is to move mountains and change hearts. It is only our job to obey Him and step out in faith to share the most amazing good news in history! It is not about us; it is all about Him and His glory. My view of patients has forever been changed. I now see them as God's precious children who deeply need Him. I count it as a privilege and honor to be a part of this amazing training and experience that will continue to have an immense impact in my life forever.

Overcoming Obstacles

By Natalie Decker

Upon reading Acts 1:8, "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses...to the ends of the earth," I found myself confessing my timidity and unbelief that God could and would use me. So I prayed that He would give me faith so I could live in the Holy Spirit's power in all aspects of my life. God began answering this prayer of mine rather quickly. The next day we reported to the wards to provide spiritual care to patients for the first time.

With our first patient Rosa, a couple obstacles occurred up front that put doubt in my mind, including disease precautions and a language barrier. The patient looked very tired but agreed to talk with us and her husband Jose was willing to translate. I asked Rosa if it would be helpful if we prayed for her. However, God led us in a different direction: she asked about our religion, leading us to bring up the topic of a personal relationship with Jesus. She was interested! We had a Spanish booklet of the four spiritual laws, which her husband began to read to her. About halfway through the booklet, I realized that this was just as much for him as it was for her. It clicked that God just might be working on one or both of their hearts. Sure enough, both trusted Him as the One who paid the price for their sins, repented, and turned the control of their lives to Him. Now this couple has a new life in Christ.

Through this God showed me how many times I didn't have control of the conversation at all, I was just being used as a vessel for the message He wanted to deliver. All I have to do is go in the power of the Holy Spirit and leave the results to Him because He's completely in control anyway!

*The names have been changed to protect patient privacy.



What has God been teaching you at METS this summer?



"I've heard and know the need to depend on God, but it wasn't until METS that I learned how to do that in a practical way." -Jen Chu

God desires to envelop my entire life, not just one or two parts. I am not my own, and that I was bought at a price, therefore He is responsible for determining my actions. -Katy Leakey



"God sees me as adequate and accepted because of what Jesus has done for me." -Tim O'Brien

The Character of Vulnerability

By Mallory Phillips



This summer has had a huge impact on my walk with the Lord. I have been completely broken and vulnerable before the Lord and with other students on this preceptorship. God used my time of brokenness to shine through others and reveal His true character; His perfect, loving, and powerful character! Through this experience a desire in my heart has grown- to live boldly for the Lord! A powerful verse for me this summer was from 2 Corinthians 12:9. But He said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me."

