Jesus Is ... The Way-A Way of Life on the Campus of Andrews University

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I just love what Japhet De Oliveira has put together for this campus. Every community of worship on this campus, dorm worships, co-ed worships, every venue will be spending time in the first five books of the New Testament—one of the four Gospels or the book of Acts—all through the school year. At Pioneer Memorial Church, we begin a new series in the book of John titled, “The Last Word: The Fourth Gospel for a Final Generation,” and on Wednesday nights at our House of Prayer we are going through the book of Matthew with three young preacher/teachers. I think it will be a powerful focus for Andrews University. —Dwight K. Nelson, senior pastor, Pioneer Memorial Church

Studying “The Way” makes me want Jesus to be all in my life. The craving for Jesus is like being held under water; all you need is a breath. Nothing else matters; all you can think about, strive for and need is air. And when you breath, it fills you—and that is The Way. —Lindsey Pratt, senior

“I know that lots of the topics presented on campus are important, but as a student it feels like artificial theological competition for my attention. Maybe “The Way” could recenter Jesus as our focus, so that the rest—while important—can naturally fall into place. But most importantly, so that students can pronounce, without delay, “Jesus. All.” —Enoch Lopez, graduate student

“The Way,” for me, looks a lot like what Jesus expounded on in John, chapter 10. It means listening and understanding the voice of Jesus in my life—in the “fold” where I currently am—be it in Andrews University, the SDA Church or “the world.” It means being called by Jesus from that “fold” to follow Jesus, the One shepherd, out onto the path that He leads. In a practical sense, “The Way” is my life of worship devoted to the person of Jesus and His word rather than the idea of Jesus and the words of others. —Kasper Haughton Jr., graduate student

The One project (see August 2011, p. 12–19) gave me a sobering focus for my faith, ministry and everyday life. When on a campus filled with students who are trying to figure out their identity and what their professional calling is, it only seems appropriate to allow Jesus, “The Way,” to reign as the primary focus of the year. In our celebration of Jesus, we will discover a reassuring acceptance and hopeful future. —Pablo Ariza, graduate student

“The Way” means to me that the whole of our focus is exactly where it needs to be, on searching out, knowing and lifting up Christ and Him crucified—desiring that nothing else would come in between us at Andrews and our desire to know Jesus as a personal Savior and Friend. —Tyler Cantrel, graduate student

“Focusing on Jesus has inspired me to live strong for Him.” —Jon Cobb, senior

“The Way” means living every day in deeper and deeper understanding of what it means to follow Jesus in your everyday actions. —Camden Bowman, senior

Any journey that has Jesus first and last is the best journey one can take. I am ecstatic to be part of AU campus that not only gives every student the word of God but also wants them to know the Word personally. In the words of my dear friend Dr. Tim Gillespie, it’s not “Jesus. And...,” it’s “Jesus. All.” —Japhet De Oliveira, director, Center for Youth Evangelism