A close-up photograph of a dandelion seed head in its white, fluffy stage, perched on a green stem. The background is a soft-focus field of green grass under a clear blue sky. The text 'Bread of Life' is overlaid in a red, cursive font.

*Bread  
of  
Life*

*Chinese Bible Study  
Fall 2009*

# Bread of Life Staff Fall 2009

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# Letter from the Editor

As I scrounge around my dorm room for old BoLs, trying desperately to find inspiration from past letters from the editor, I look again at the blank word document on my computer screen. Turning back to the old BoLs, I begin to flip through different editions from way back to 2003!

I finally stop perusing and simply stare at the stack of BoLs as I start to type this letter. Some are filled with unfamiliar names, others with our dear upperclassmen. But you know what every single one of these BoLs have in common? Evidence of the greater things to come. Pick up any edition and you'll see interviews and blurbs that speak of an eternal glory. And that's what I hope you'll take away from this edition of Bread of Life.

It's so easy to get caught up in our academics – especially with as busy a semester as this one. You have to ask yourself, “What am I truly living for?” Does this question pop up in your head when you finish a problem set but skip devotions? Type up a paper but decline a meet up with someone? C. S. Lewis writes, “You have never talked to a mere mortal.” Is that prelim really more important than someone's *soul*?

I think Jesus puts it pretty clearly: *But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.* Matthew 6:33. Do we truly seek after his kingdom? Do we realize the imminent, eternal glory? Are we living for the things of this world, which can fade as quickly as the seeds of a dandelion? Do we place great importance on the kingdom of heaven like the man who found a pearl of great value, sold everything he had, and bought it (Matthew 13:45-46)?

I pray and hope that you will find that what you are holding in your hands tangible evidence of the passage in 2 Corinthians and see how God has been working in this fellowship. Be encouraged by these freshmen (yea 2013!) who understand that academics aren't everything. Be joyful in knowing that the Servant team serves not themselves but God alone. Be grateful in knowing that the BoL staff is working hard because God is worth the late nights in a computer lab!

Though we grow weary, we are being renewed day by day. Though this world cannot satisfy, we find joy in our satisfaction in God. Though we were still sinners, God gave us His Son to save us from eternal condemnation. Though there is suffering in this world, those who call themselves children of God will one day be with the One who will receive all the glory. Now *that's* something to live for.

Always and only  
Your sister in Christ,

Katarina Ng '12

Editor-in-Chief  
4 December 2009

*2 Corinthians 4:17-18*

*For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen. For what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.*

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# Coordinator Letter 1

*“Those who carried materials did their work with one hand and held a weapon in the other, and each of the builders wore his sword at his side as he worked.”*

– Excerpt from Nehemiah 4 (NIV).

Eric Yau '10

A dear brother recently encouraged me with this verse. In a time of hostility with neighboring nations, Nehemiah's duty was to ensure that the walls of Jerusalem were rebuilt, and as such, he charged the workers to work diligently, to be on guard at all times, and to be ready to stop working and head straight into battle if necessary. This is the biggest struggle I've faced this semester.

The vision for Chinese Bible Study this year is to have people gain a deep and personal understanding of the Gospel and to allow God, by His grace, to transform us by the power of the Gospel to freely and joyfully obey Him. Our vision passage, Colossians 3:1-4, is a reminder to set our sights upon Christ and the hope of glory, which is Christ in each one of us. Hearing this is one thing, but preaching it to yourself is another. What does it personally mean for Christ to be the firstborn over all creation? For Christ to reign supreme? For all fullness to dwell in and through Christ? What does it mean to have once been alienated but now reconciled through Christ by faith? And how thankful are we of that fact?

As students we've been blessed, encouraged, and exhorted to glorify God in our studies, in our career searches, and in every action while we're here on the hill at Cornell (1 Cor. 10:31). We're also called to proclaim and to promote the Great Commission, to be salt and light to those who don't call Jesus their personal Savior (Matthew 28:16-20). And we're also told to fight some serious spiritual battles against the waging that goes on in our hearts on a daily basis and to mortify sin by the power of the Holy Spirit (Romans 8:13). By the time we're finished writing a list, we find ourselves inquiring if a balanced, Christian life in college is even possible. Nehemiah says it's possible: to work and be armed at the same time. But isn't it inefficient to work with just one hand? Isn't it unproductive to fight a battle wielding a ten-pound shovel (or whatever tools they used to build the wall)?

Our commandment is to stand firm, protected by spiritual armor against the world, and to fashion our weapon, the Word of God. Am I fighting for my faith? When I'm studying and I forget to saturate my mind and heart in God's truths, do I realize that in my tiredness and restlessness, I'm most easily tempted, prone to sin, prone to anger or frustration? What about the flipside? Does God want me to serve, serve, and then serve CBS some more and forget that He's also placed me here because He sees the overall plan for my life and this is just part of walking that path? I suppose that this IS the challenge in making Christ the center of everything.

So now I see my inadequacies, my sins, my heart that is not always satisfied with God, and I see two paths that I have taken. I used to walk the path of performance and expectations where if I sinned, I would despair, find self-pity, and hide the transgressions so that no one knew the true nature of my heart. But God is slowly changing my heart. Though I'm not perfect, I now realize that, as John Newton said, "I am a great sinner, but Christ is a greater Savior." My desire is for each and every single believer in Chinese Bible Study to adopt a gospel of grace, one rooted in Jesus Christ and under the truth that we're a body of broken people that cannot afford to masquerade as "all-right" people. We are sinners, every single one of us, and the sooner we can see and confess that to each other, the sooner we can grow in true unity as a body under the head of Christ.

I'm excited for next semester. There will be tough times ahead and spiritual battles to fight. But let's cling hard and fast to God's steadfast love and faithfulness. We aren't good, but God is. Believe it!

Soli Deo Gloria.

# Coordinator Letter 2

Judy Liang '10

*“Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight.”*

- Proverbs 3:5-6

No matter how many times I read the verse and ponder this, I still depend on my own thoughts and hands to carry out my plans. This semester, the plans I had for serving this fellowship were jumbled with the deadlines for my academics, plans for the future, phone calls with friends back home, and meetings with various sisters. Yet, I wanted to do more. However, God harshly reminded and continues to remind me each day that I am only human. I do not have the strength to serve in all the places I wish to serve in; rather, I need to always return to the words of Proverbs 3:5-6 and ask for his guidance and wisdom to know where I should be and who I should serve. He broke me and specifically revealed that my heart was only so big for the sisters I wanted to serve. When my patience and strength wore out, I said things that I regretted, and I served without a servant's heart. Through this, I realized two things: we will always fail, and God's love never fails.

I know I still make mistakes  
But You have new mercies for me everyday  
Your love never fails

You stay the same through the ages  
Your love never changes  
There may be pain in the night but joy comes in the morning

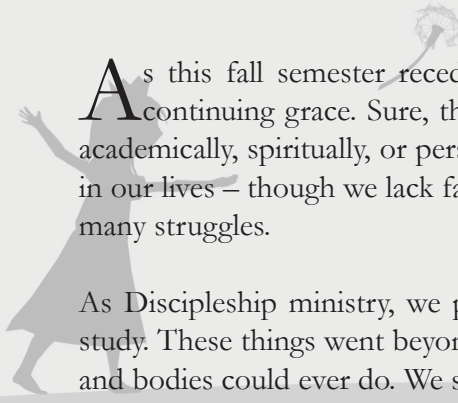
God's love endures forever as Psalm 136 repeats over and over. This is one of the reasons why we are abundantly blessed to be his sheep and have Him as our shepherd. This is why we strive to wrestle in prayer as Epaphras did and ask for God's strength and love in order to serve our brothers and sisters. We are called to be a fellowship even through the times when we hurt and fail each other. The scary reality is that we, as sinners, are still selfish beings who forget that "love comes from God" (1 John 4:7) and forget to "in humility consider others better than [our]selves" (Philippians 2:3). Without depending on God, the creator of love, we do not know how to continually love each other "with actions and in truth" (1 John 3:18).

Let us remember that the greatest sign of love was Jesus dying on the cross for us although we were and are wretched sinners. His blood has washed us as white as snow. This gift has made us alive to God in Christ Jesus. What God has given us has allowed us to see our sin and repent of it. Let us continue to remind each other and ourselves of this gift every morning, especially through the "continuing debt to love one another" (Romans 13:8).

Your servant and sister.

# Discipleship Ministry

Kevin Yang '11 & Rachel Pang '11



As this fall semester recedes into the rearview mirror, we are constantly reminded of God's continuing grace. Sure, this semester hasn't always been easy. We have all struggled – whether academically, spiritually, or personally. But looking back, we realize the true extent of God's blessing in our lives – though we lack faith and fail in love for Him, He still loves us and helps us through our many struggles.

As Discipleship ministry, we paired up prayer partners and helped organize the discipleship Bible study. These things went beyond mere logistics, spreadsheets, or even anything that our feeble minds and bodies could ever do. We see now how His hand has been involved in all our plans and meetings and how His work was and is being done.

Our vision for Discipleship ministry this school year is the Great Commission (Matthew 28:19-20), which Jesus commanded His disciples to do after His crucifixion and resurrection. In it, He extols His apostles to not only make converts, but disciples, of all nations. Our hope is that the fellowship can learn and grow a heart for God's kingdom by understanding His command for us to make disciples.

What have we done to encourage the fellowship to understand God's vision for making disciples of the world? We had hoped to be able to meet up with all the prayer partners as well as send a lot more emails about discipleship. Clearly, we were not entirely successful on that part. Our responsibilities as students often tied us up with prelims, projects, papers, and more. But despite these setbacks, we see how God has blessed this ministry and have seen how He has been able to use that to glorify Him, despite our own inadequacy. For example, He provided us an opportunity to have a Bible study on discipleship. This allowed us to go into the Word and learn what discipleship truly means. In the Bible study, we were able to go into God's Word to examine how Jesus taught His disciples, and to learn how we should obey, trust, and follow Christ as the disciples did. In order to go and make disciples, we need to first follow Christ.

We've been encouraged throughout this semester by watching people grow in their walks in God. Even from within our own class, we've seen how the juniors have grown from freshmen with an older prayer partner to juniors who truly have a heart to reach out to underclassmen as others did when we were freshmen. We have been blessed to witness how God has changed and grown each and every one of us. Our prayer is that we may all be active in the process of following Christ and have the desire to seek after Him and to thirst for Him. In Philippians 2:12, Paul says we should continue to work out our salvation with fear and trembling. However, though we have our part,, it is God who works in all things according to His good purpose (Philippians 2:13).

# Evangelism Ministry

Ann Yang '11 & Thomas Tran '11

**W**e first want to share our praises and what God has revealed to us this past semester.

*Praise God for He is good!* We have been encouraged to see both believers and nonbelievers actively seek God in their lives. It has been a joy to see brothers and sisters share about how God has been using them in their personal lives to reach out to their friends. Through sharing, God has gently reminded and encouraged us of His sovereign and faithful work by seeing individuals become salt and light to peers. As the semester comes to an end, we hope that we, as a fellowship, will continue to live out our testimony to our family and friends. Also, we hope that you will continue to share your praises and struggles as children of God on this campus.

*Challenges for all!* God humbles us in reminding us that our faith continues to grow even as leaders of a ministry. As leaders in this ministry, we have struggled to balance serving along with many of the things we have to do in our own personal lives, but God has continued to show us what it means to put Him first. He has taught us that we need to continue to share our faith so that we can be reminded of “every good thing we have in Christ” (Philemon 1:6). As we approach next semester, we want to see the fellowship continue to grow a heart for living out and sharing the Gospel. Make your hearts raw for God as you strive for closer sister/brother relationships and to live in the Truth.

*Prayer Requests.* We hope that you can continue to pray consistently for the nonbelievers in your lives. In addition, we would like to ask you to pray for Coffeehouse, which is CBS's annual Evangelism Outreach event that takes place in the spring. Coffeehouse is a time when the fellowship can collectively come together to share our faith with both friends and strangers. We ask that you pray for boldness within the fellowship to proclaim the Gospel with joy. We also ask you to pray for a revival of hearts on this campus. Pray that God's glory will not only be revealed at Coffeehouse, but in all the events leading up to and following it.

*Many Thanks.* Finally, we would like to thank God for bringing people to our Saturday meetings and all the Christ-centered conversations. We would like to encourage the fellowship to be mindful of the fact that our identity in Christ does not end with CBS. Don't be afraid to take it a step forward and expose it to those inside and outside of CBS! Ultimately, we hope that we can always rely on God's guidance in our lives, especially as we prepare ourselves for where God calls us to be.



# *In Reach Ministry*

*Michael Hwang '12 & Van-Kim Bui '11*

Both of us are truly struggling to write this blurb. We honestly wasted two days trying to come up with a ridiculous yet marginally meaningful ice cream/Captain Planet/steak analogy in a fail attempt to articulate what the heart of InReach is. And throughout this process, we have come to realize just how hard it actually is to be transparent—to truly convey to other people where our hearts are. One of the biggest struggles for InReach, and for Christians in general, is being transparent, or completely vulnerable with one another. Before the fall of man, both Adam and Eve were naked before each other and God and felt no shame (Genesis 2:25). This nakedness, or transparency, was what God intended fellowship to be—that we would be open with one another without fear of condemnation.

But because we live in a fallen world, it becomes impossible to achieve this without God's love showing through the death and resurrection of His son Jesus Christ (1 John 4:9). The Bible clearly states that “we love because He first loved us” (1 John 4:19). Love, therefore, is not something we can create ourselves. Rather, it is the response that comes from a reliance on the unconditional and eternal love God has for us. So the first step towards achieving true transparency is to understand the need for a personal relationship with God.

Christianity, however, is more than just one's own relationship with God. God has placed brothers and sisters in our lives so that we may “spur each other on toward love and good deeds” (Hebrews 10:24). Our vision this year is to love our family not only with “words or tongue but with actions and in truth” (1 John 3:18). Through this, we as brothers and sisters can encourage one another and grow together in Christ.

Each of the ministries in CBS is a manifestation of God's love, and each one serves a different function in the fellowship. InReach attempts to facilitate unity through practical means such as After CBS Events, care packages, and felly dinners. We do these things not just for fun, but to foster a Christ-like unity between brothers and sisters. In our meetings, we explore the many ways that love can be shown in our lives, such as sharing, praying, and being an example to one another. Apart from Christ, however, all the things we attempt to do are meaningless! As stated in our vision, love needs to be both in “actions and in **truth**” (1 John 3:18). Without truth and grace, unity in the fellowship through Christ is impossible. The same grace that began our walks with God is the same grace that enables our walks to continue. And as we enter another semester, we must continue to rely on the grace that God has shown us to achieve true fellowship and unity in Christ.

# Praise Ministry

Nathan Kwong '12 & Richard Kim '10

Psalm 42:5-6

*“Why are you downcast, O my soul? Why so disturbed within me? Put your hope in God, for I will yet praise him, my Savior and my God.”*

Praising God is an interesting concept. As if the Almighty and Omniscient God does not know how glorious, how wonderful and how marvelous He is. As if He needs a reminder of how magnificent His wondrous acts are. God reminds us throughout the Bible of the joy and peace that arise from praising Him. We are to praise Him in abundance and to praise Him in loss. We are to tell of His mighty works to our generation. In other words, we are to attribute worth where it is due.

So the question is: who is God to you? Is God someone you made up? When we give praise to something, we think of its attributes. We muster up, to the best of our knowledge, an idea or a feeling about it. We weigh its flaws and its benefits. Finally, we come to a conclusion of just how good this something is. In theory, praising God is much simpler. God is flawless and has given us an indescribably wonderful gift that He may complete our joy. So why do we find trouble in praising Him? What is it about our sinfulness, our idolatry that keeps us from fully enjoying His fellowship?

One of the many factors is our natural tendency to rely on the tangible. So many times do we focus on what is seen and what is felt. So many times do the broken cisterns seem more satisfying than the fountain of life. This is an issue of the heart, the wellspring of life. You have to ask yourself, with brutal honesty, what is getting in the way of my praise of God? Is it your emotions? Is it your family? Your friends? Your schoolwork? Money? Do you have doubts about God? Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness. God actively fights for His children. Seek after him wholly, and He will bless you spiritually.

God is not man-made, and Jesus Christ is not a fairy tale. The Holy Spirit does move in us to enlighten and to intercede for us. Praise is not about how you feel or what you are going through. It is about the response to an everlasting and unchanging God in a fallen, broken world. How do you respond to a bad prelim? How do you respond to a rude person? Where is your heart? Do not lose heart CBS! Live in the Truth. Live in the Hope. When the going gets tough and the times look rough, look toward the Cross: the source of joy, hope, encouragement, peace, and love.

# Prayer Ministry

Janice Cheong '10

Over the summer, I had a difficult time trying to understand what a “vision” meant and how it could define or lead a ministry. I remember reading books, listening to sermons, and reading the Bible, praying that in the midst of those God would tell me the vision for Prayer Ministry. As the day for sharing with large group drew near, I couldn't help thinking that maybe I was overcomplicating this.

I knew that God was telling me over and over that prayer is foundational to knowing Him. He put on my heart: “If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you” (John 15:7). But, as I looked over previous years' visions, I realized that this was last year's vision, so how could it be this year's also? I thought to myself: “You need to put more effort, prayer, and thought into this. It has to be something different.” But God has been reassuring me this semester that leading is leaning on Him and not on my own brain, plans or expectations. What Paul writes to the Corinthians is encouraging - that God's grace is sufficient and that His power is made perfect in our weakness (2 Cor. 12:9).

This year's vision centers on remaining in Jesus and His words. Remaining in Jesus has a lot to do with the Spirit working in our prayer lives. As we pray, the Holy Spirit guides us into truth and brings Jesus glory by making what is His known to us (John 16:12-15). The Holy Spirit also helps us in our weakness when we pray and intercedes for us according to the will of God (Rom. 8:26-27). It might be difficult to sincerely say to God, “Your will be done in my life,” or it may be obvious that as a sovereign God, His will is carried out, but praying that changes us.

Secondly, prayer that is grounded in Scripture grows our knowledge of God. His Word becomes living words working in our lives. Looking at 2 Timothy 3:16, “All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness” and Psalm 119, we see the infallibility of God's word, and the importance of it in our lives. I hope that as we meditate on passages during large group, read weekly prayer emails, or have daily quiet times, that we will interact and wrestle with Scripture, letting it be our prayer.

I encourage those of you who read this to continue to lift up CBS and its needs. Pray that this fellowship would grow up in every way into Jesus, who is the head. And I ask God for you “that you may be filled with the knowledge of his will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, so as to walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him, bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God. May you be strengthened with all power, according to his glorious might, for all endurance and patience with joy, giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light.” In Jesus' name, Amen. (Col 1:9b-12)

I haven't been able to get to know the freshmen class very well this semester unfortunately, a fact that became even more apparent to me when I realized that I had never met Andy before. After conducting a mild Facebook investigation, I was able to locate him after CBS and make an awkward introduction. Luckily, Andy turned out to be a lot cooler than I was and showed me grace in looking past my sketchiness.

**Top three things you want/do not want to accomplish before graduation:**

1. Be a comedian
2. Learn to cook for myself
3. Become a badminton pro

**What was your first impression of Cornell? CBS?**

The campus was huge and the slopes are crazy. I biked down to Walmart on my first day to buy a fan for my room, only to realize that Cornell is super cold. The food was also pleasantly good.

As for CBS, I really liked the sharing. I felt that I could really relate to the issues that people were sharing with the

fellowship. It was interesting to hear their perspectives and how to apply the Word to their daily lives.

**How did you hear about CBS?**

I heard about it from the inter-felly fair. I actually didn't know anybody from CBS, but I decided to check it out anyways.

**If you could be a kitchen appliance, what would you be? And why?**

Coffee maker—I can help students to stay awake in lecture.

**What did you want to be when you were in second grade?**

Either an artist or a communist youth leader.

I wasn't really too sure what to expect heading into the interview and talking with Andy for the first time. But I was pleasantly surprised to find that not only was he quite considerate, but he also had an agreeable dash of dry wit. I definitely look forward to growing closer to him, as well as the rest of the freshmen class, over these next few years.

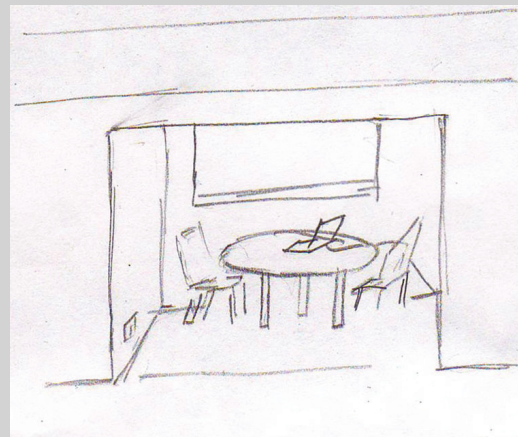
# Nathan Kwong '12

Hometown:  
Shanghai  
Expected Major:  
Chemical Engineering

- Purple: Computer screen failure
- Junior class: Enthusiastic
- Concrete: Civil engineering
- Sophomore class: A lot of sharing
- Water: Phase diagrams
- Mustache: Math professor
- Senior class: Smart
- Distillation: Unit Operations Lab
- Freshmen class: Friendly people

## Word Association

# Andy Xu



First impression of Cornell:  
I think of Duffield and atriums.

First impression of Cornell:  
HK's leaves don't change color!



# Ann Lin

Ann Lin and I sort of knew each other via email correspondences but it took us a month to finally meet in person. We very randomly and awkwardly looked at each other one Friday night and asked hesitantly, “..Ann?” “Michelle..?” “Oh!!!!!! So it’s you!!!” “That’s who you are!!”

A week later, I’m interviewing her....

## Top three things you want/do not want to accomplish before graduation:

1. Stay at the same weight throughout my years here
2. Go on a field trip to Africa, hopefully on a service trip
3. Be able to give blood. “Because I’m from Hong Kong and might be at risk for malaria, I’m not allowed to give blood for three years.”

## What was your first impression of Cornell? CBS?

Cornell: Green and waterfalls.

CBS: Awkward initially because of the silence at the beginning of sharing but after people started to share, it felt more like a tight-knit family.

## How did you hear about CBS?

I first heard of CBS at the Christian Fair but then heard about it again from Ruth one Sunday at FICCC.

## Word Association

Purple: My bedsheets [*Editor’s note: this is what we want to be on right now, 6:34 am*]

Junior class: Van-Kim

Concrete: Rock

Sophomore class: Ruth

Water: H<sub>2</sub>O

Mustache: My high school principal

Senior class: Old

Distillation: Chemistry

Freshmen class: Family

Hometown:

Hong Kong/Fujian, China

Expected Major:

Human Biology, Health, and Society

Michelle Ng '11

**If you could be a kitchen appliance, what would you be? And why?**

Microwave. I like everything quick and I like to see immediate results.

**What did you want to be when you were in second grade?**

A doctor. It was what my parents wanted me to be.  
Haha

One thing Ann taught me during our interview was that the leaves don’t turn colors in Hong Kong! I also learned that even though she’s only a first-semester freshman, she’s already getting involved on campus. After our interview, she ran off to table for Operation D.E.E.P., which was selling egg tarts that day to fundraise support for an educational program in China. I also learned of her heart for her class and for CBS, which she says has already become her family here at Cornell. I’m sure that God will use Ann in CBS and other places at Cornell in her upcoming years here. Grow strong and press on dear sister!

On a rare, yet gloriously sunny November afternoon, Deborah experienced her first chicken and noodle bowl from Trillium. As she ate, I had a chance to probe the brain of this quick-minded and energetic sister.

**Top three things you want/do not want to accomplish before graduation:**

1. Get a degree—but I guess that’s a given?
2. Build friendships that last
3. Take advantage of Cornell’s resources, like doing research here, and basically make the most of the things that Cornell has to offer.

**Things she does not want to accomplish:**

Develop an over-inflated opinion of myself because of the fact that I’m here.

**What was your first impression of Cornell? CBS?**

Cornell was really green—lots of foliage. When I first arrived here with my family, the first thing that I saw was the clock tower.

The people of CBS were really outgoing. I also saw where my sister Anna (’08) got her weird habits.

**How did you hear about CBS?**

From my sister Anna. *[Interviewer’s note: Deborah also revealed*

*Grace Chen '10*

*Hometown:  
Danville, CA  
Expected Major:  
Chemical Engineering*

Purple: Mango “That makes no sense, I know”

Junior class: Uhhh below the seniors? I mean, like a year below the seniors.

Concrete: Stone, even though it’s not a stone.

Sophomore class: Michael—the short-haired InReach guy.

Water: Dihydrogen monoxide and hydrogen bonds

Mustache: Borat

Senior class: The class where Anna got all her weird mannerisms

Distillation: L/V

Freshmen class: Yay!

*that she choose this fellowship for its own merits, not because her sister came here as well]*

**If you could be a kitchen appliance, what would you be? And why?**

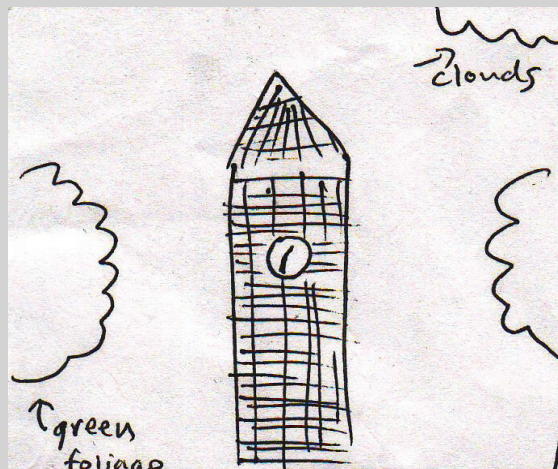
A KitchenAid stand mixer. It has a powerful motor and is versatile—overall, a very exciting kitchen tool. I like to be good at things and do many different things (like the mixer). *[Interviewer’s note: Deborah has an interesting story of how she first encountered such an appliance—ask about it next time you see her :-). Deborah is also quite the foodie!]*

**What did you want to be when you were in second grade?**

Definitely not a ChemE. I think I wanted to be an inventor. I had this notebook that I carried around where I wrote down any spontaneous inventions that came to mind. I remember being really excited about the idea of creating something for cars that would make them not start if the person driving had alcohol in his or her system. A few years later, I remember actually reading about something similar that was created and that was pretty exciting.

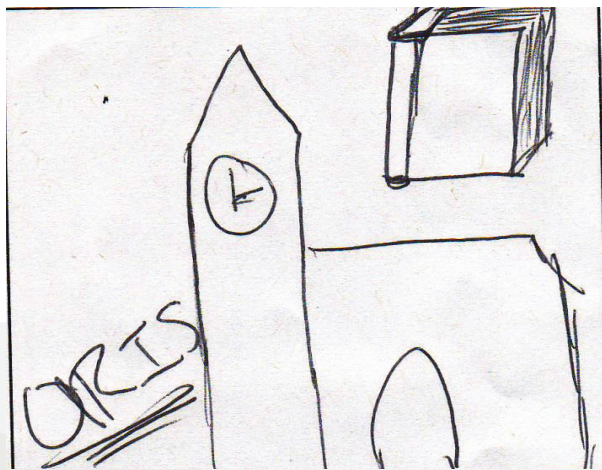
Deborah, with her insightful and interesting perspectives on life, is definitely a blessing to have in CBS! I trust that God will be growing this sister and using her to bring glory to His kingdom :-)

*Deborah  
Lin*



First impression of Cornell: Cornell was really green--lots of foliage. When I first arrived here with my family, the first thing that I saw was the clock tower.

First impression of Cornell:  
I spend a lot of time in Uris.



# Ellie Chen

I rushed through the Arts Quad, already behind for our interview. As I entered Goldwin Smith, I scanned the lobby to see if Ellie was waiting for me, ready to apologize for my lateness. She wasn't there! I quickly whipped out my laptop to email her, thinking that maybe she came on time, didn't see me, decided that I forgot, and left! Right as I hit "Send," she came walking up the steps, and said that she wasn't sure where to go because she had never been to Goldwin Smith before this. We, then, commenced the interview so that we could make it to our 2:55 classes.

## Top three things you want/do not want to accomplish before graduation (we did four!):

- 1) Don't want to pass out [Interviewer's note: by "pass out" she means overworking]
- 2) No real goals but to get A's
- 3) Join a club- something medical related – EMS?
- 4) Get research interviews! Instead of joining clubs

## What was your first impression of Cornell? CBS?

Cornell...it's big. Everyone says that! I need something original. It's big and gloomy [Interviewer: just today!] (laughs) everyday.

CBS is very friendly, which is a good thing. Everyone is so happy all the time. I wish I could be happy like that. Everyone is so cheerful about everything.

## How did you hear about CBS?

I heard because of Christian fellowships [Interviewer: the interfellowship fair?]. My mom told me to go to a church

## Word Association

Purple: Dinosaur

Junior class: Uh super junior

Concrete: Cement (points outside)

Sophomore class: Murui (sophomore who helps her with psych stuff)

[Interviewer: I'M IN PSYCH TOO!]

Water: Bottle

Mustache: Goatee

Senior class: Graduation

Distillation: Uh uh water

Freshmen class: Me!

Hometown:

Syracuse, NY/Minnesota

Expected Major:

Biology

## Van-Kim Bui '11

group. We had a good church in Minnesota but there's not as many in Syracuse, so she told me to find one at Cornell.

## If you could be a kitchen appliance, what would you be? And why?

(Laughs) A dough roller thingy because it's very universal and versatile. You can hit people, roll dough, etc!

## What did you want to be when you were in second grade?

Dancer - I used to dance when I was younger from age 5 to 10.

We finished up the interview just getting to know more about each other and how her freshmen year has been going. She had to run off to her Freshmen Writing Seminar, and I urged her to ask her parents if she could stay in town so that I could see her more often. The very next day, I saw Ellie outside of Bailey Hall getting ready for another exciting Psych lecture! What a way to show how God answers even small prayers. Ellie is a cheerful person with a wonderful laugh, and I can't wait to see how God moves in her through the next few years at Cornell.

As I sat in Duffield waiting for Horace, I was expecting him to come with Tim Hu. Conveniently, I sat next to Anthony (or shall I say Anpony) who would have been the perfect guy for Tim to talk to once I had stolen Horace away! However, I was wrong! Horace came all by himself after his PE class (sorry, I forgot what you were taking!) and so, the interview was on! Horace is quite the independent guy who seems to love cars, so check out his interview to find out who he is!

**Top three things you want/do not want to accomplish before graduation:**

1. Drive a racecar *[Interviewer's note: an eager member of Formula SAE, no?]*
2. Live on West *[Interviewer's note: I suppose Casc is a bit too ghetto for this fellow freshman]*
3. Stay in Engineering *[Interviewer's note: Quite the optimist!]*

**What was your first impression of Cornell? CBS?**

Cornell: Cornell is big, and it seems like the stereotypical college. Cornell has a huge campus and tons of people, which is what I was looking for when I was searching for colleges.

CBS: CBS reminds me of Joywok, which is a fellowship from back home. I only went there once, but the people seem very similar to me.

*[Interviewer: OH! Did you know of Mike Hwang? I think he*

**Thomas Tran '11**

Hometown:  
Holmdel, NJ  
Expected Major:  
Engineering Undecided

Purple: Blue  
Junior class: You (Thomas)  
Concrete: Pavement  
Sophomore class: Mike Hwang  
Water: H<sub>2</sub>O  
Mustache: Mario  
Senior class: Old  
Distillation: Chemistry, blech.  
Freshmen class: 2009 (because he graduated in 2009)

**Word Association**

*volunteered there!]* No. *[Interviewer: Oh.]* Well, I met him here, but I didn't really know him then.

**How did you hear about CBS?**

Long story short, Olivia and Samm invited me.

*(EXCLUSIVE STORY – [Interviewer: Oh, so what's the long story?])* Well... this is how it all happened. I had just moved in and I randomly met Tim's roommate. Tim's roommate and I started to hang out until Tim came along.

*[This was the spawn of the attachment – a.k.a. friendship – of Tim Hu and Horace Chan]*

While I was hanging out with Tim's roommate, Tim met Olivia and Samm. Anyway, so Tim and I went to grab lunch/dinner one time and Tim introduced me to Olivia and Samm at Willard Straight Hall. Olivia and Samm invited us to CBS. The end!

**If you could be a kitchen appliance, what would you be? And why?**

I would be a spork. Sporks are pretty useful – you can eat anything you want! They even make sporks with knives on the other end, which is very practical. I'm a practical guy.

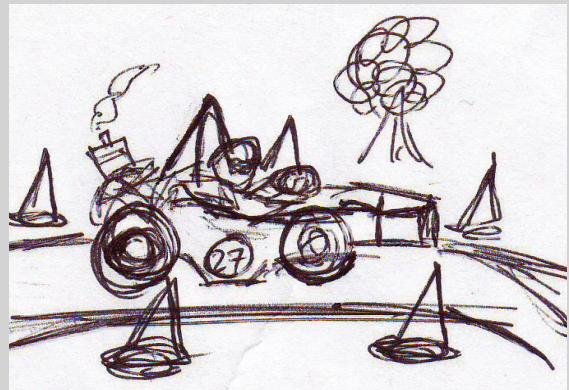
**What did you want to be when you were in second grade?**

I wanted to be a Pokemon master! When I was in second grade, I got my first card, which was a KaKuna. After that, I started collecting Pokemon cards.

*[Interviewer's note: His favorite Pokemon is Charizard because it's a fire-breathing Dragon]*

So, Horace is a fire-breathing-loving-dragon who loves to ride racecars! If you're ever in Upson and want to grab a bite to eat, come find this guy!

**Horace Chan**



First impression of Cornell:  
This is a picture of the car we're building in Formula SAE.



First impression of Cornell:

For me, Cornell is like a cute and happy polar bear! <3



## Word Association

Purple: Flower

Junior class: Thomas Tran

Concrete: Building

Sophomore class: Crazy

Water: Thirst

Mustache: France

Senior class: Hilarious

Distillation: Chemistry

Freshmen class: Cute

Hometown:

Cleveland, OH/Beijing/Kansas

Expected Major:

Biology/Psychology

# James Gao

It was probably the first time I ever brought a laptop into Asian Noodle, but hey, we're a peculiar people right? I was sitting down to interview James Gao. He had been hit with the swine just a few weeks before and even developed pneumonia. But he assured me he was not contagious any more. We talked and ate; he had a Chicken Noodle Soup and I had a Fish Cake Noodle Soup. It was a cold night and we both wanted something warm.

**Top three things you want/do not want to accomplish before graduation:**

1. A lot of research, lots of experience in research
2. To find some extracurricular activity and become good at it and be a leader in it
3. Study abroad in France

**What was your first impression of Cornell? CBS?**

It was...beautiful...when I visited during Cornell days. Everywhere was cool and people were looking happy. And the food was good.

CBS was very welcoming. Everybody was really nice. People were fun and nice.

**How did you hear about CBS?**

They had a lot of...oh goodness...I can't even remember...

## Y. Henry Wen '09

when I first came here...might have been Edgar on North. He handed me a thing, first for KCCE, then for CBS...that's how I first heard about it but I didn't know if I was going to go or not. But then I met Olivia and Samm. Olivia said they were going to FICCC and said that we should go together...then they talked about going to CBS together too.

**If you could be a kitchen appliance, what would you be? And why?**

Blender: I like to mix things up, to do things differently and to combine things...and I like smoothies.

**What did you want to be when you were in second grade?**

An architect – when I was little I loved to draw things, and Lego's were my favorite.

By the end of our conversation I felt God had really warmed our hearts to each other. I was glad to have gotten to know this brother better and it's my joy to share a little of what I learned with you.

Before we met, I emailed Jeff and asked him if there was anywhere he hadn't eaten at yet - Ivy Room? Trillium? He replied and said that he had never eaten at Statler, so we decided to go to Terrace. For lunch, we both got the Banfi's Melt, which is a grilled panini with melted cheese over roasted chicken and (I think) peppers. Mmmmm it was good. Jeff also bought a fruit juice - I think it was orange, but it could have been apple. You should ask him.

**Top three things you want/do not want to accomplish before graduation:**

1. Work on a project team
2. Be a better Christian
3. Experience Ithaca weather

**What was your first impression of Cornell? CBS?**

Cornell - It's too big. I thought it would be hard to meet people.

CBS - I liked it, so I kept coming back. I saw the strong group unity and the fact that people cared about going.

*David Ho '12*

*Hometown:  
Morristown, NJ  
Expected Major:  
Electrical & Computer Engineering*

Purple: Green  
Junior class: 2011  
Concrete: Steel  
Sophomore class: Mike  
Water: Gorges  
Mustache: Beard  
Senior class: Graduating  
Distillation: Chemistry  
Freshmen class: 2013

*Word Association*

**How did you hear about CBS?**

Fellowship fair during orientation week.

**If you could be a kitchen appliance, what would you be? And why?**

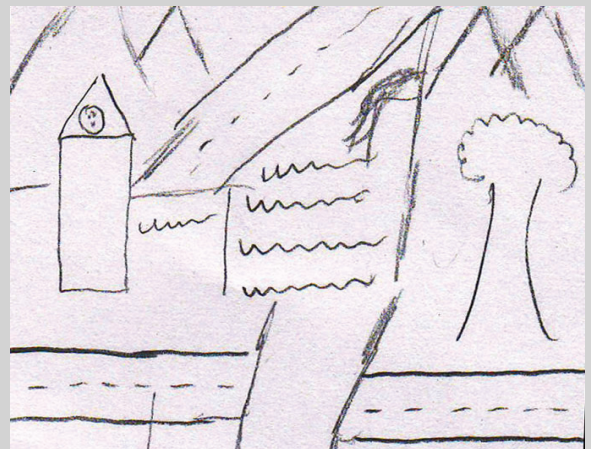
A blender - I like mixing stuff together.

**What did you want to be when you were in second grade?**

Astronaut

It was great being able to hang out that afternoon. Jeff - best of luck with everything these next 4 years!

*Jeffrey Yu*



First impression of Cornell:  
When I think of Cornell, I think of trees, the clock tower, and hills.

First impression of Cornell:

I am happy and I desire peace, hence the peace sign, and I would like to grow in my thirst for the Word. Amen.

:D



## Word Association

Purple: Barney

Junior class: AP's (classes)

Concrete: Gray

Sophomore class: Mike Hwang

Water: H<sub>2</sub>O

Mustache: Shave

Senior class: Old people

Distillation: Ahsa 아사, Kat Ng

Freshmen class: Me

# Jerry Zhuo

As Jerry and I were arguing about whether the wraps at Ivy Room were bad or not (The Dragon-Hammer would agree that they are horrible), Sandra and her interviewee, Jingpeng, walked into the Ivy Room. As the four of us were waiting for our food, Grace walked in with Kim...I digress...Anyway, after we settled down with our food, with no time to lose I started the interrogation...

**Top three things you want/do not want to accomplish before graduation:**

1. Study abroad.
2. Eat at every single Cornell dining place.
3. Get a cute girlfriend.

**What was your first impression of Cornell? CBS?**

Cornell – Forestry and bleak.

CBS – Asians

Hometown:

Irvine, CA

Expected Major:

Biology

David Bu '12

**How did you hear about CBS?**

I saw a sign somewhere.

**If you could be a kitchen appliance, what would you be? And why?**

A refrigerator so I will never go hungry or an oven, because I'm hot.

**What did you want to be when you were in second grade?**

I wanted to be Einstein or a boy band idol.

After the interview, I got to know this freshman a little better. He is a very interesting character...Anyway, after finishing dinner, we headed back up to Phillips 101, following behind some praise team people who also happened to go to Ivy Room that day.

This semester has gone by so quickly. Unfortunately, because of this, I have not had the time to get to know the members of the freshmen class very well. That is why I was glad to get a chance to interview one of them. Luckily, my interviewee Jesse turned out to be pretty cool.

**Top three things you want/do not want to accomplish before graduation:**

1. Spiritual maturity
2. Knowing more about how things work
3. Doesn't want to pull any all-nighters

**What was your first impression of Cornell? CBS?**

Cornell: Big but nice to see people you know.

CBS: People are nice. Also likes the songs, the focus on God, and prayer partners.

# Kufre Inyang '12

Hometown:  
South Brunswick, NJ  
Expected Major:  
Chemistry

Purple: Barney  
Junior class: Kevin and Elbert  
Concrete: Sidewalk  
Sophomore class: You (Kufre) and  
basketball  
Water: Swimming  
Mustache: Beard  
Senior class: About to graduate  
Distillation: Caps  
Freshmen class: North Campus

## Word Association

**How did you hear about CBS?**

Through Justin Deng.

**If you could be a kitchen appliance, what would you be? And why?**

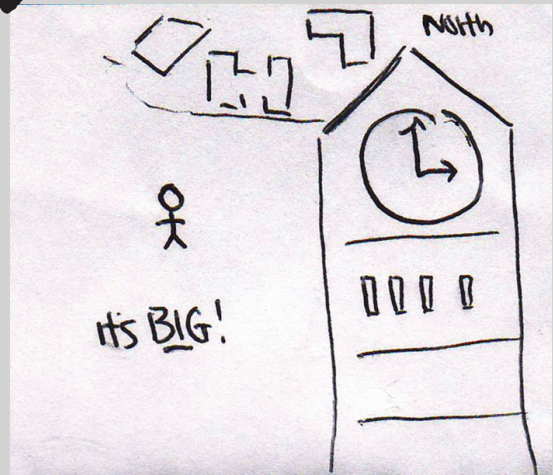
Microwave because I'm usually on time.

**What did you want to be when you were in second grade?**

Paleontologist

Following this interview the first thought that went through my mind was: "I'm so glad I didn't get stuck interviewing someone lame!" Jesse turned out to be a pretty cool kid that I hope to get to know better over these next few years at Cornell.

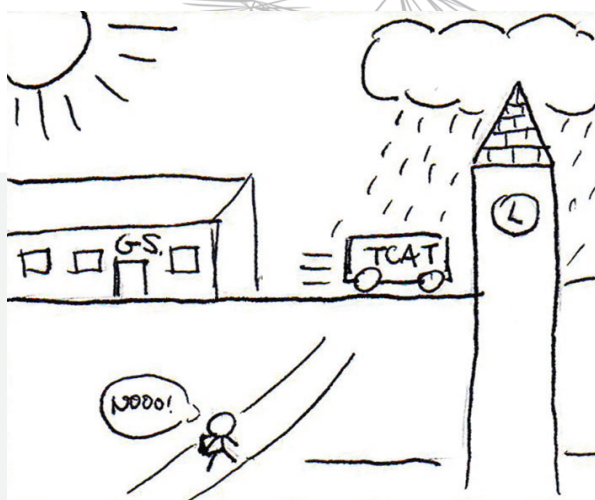
# Jesse Lin



First impression of Cornell:  
I drew a big clock tower because Cornell was a lot bigger than I thought it would be. And, I drew a small person next to the tower to make the tower seem even bigger!

First impression of Cornell:

Unpredictable changes in weather. Always have to run for the bus or wait for it forever. Bell tower represents Cornell in general...



Purple: Sheets *[Interviewer's note: Jamie's denial of having pink sheets]*

Junior class: College

Concrete: Wall

Sophomore class: Hyper *[Interviewer's note: That must be a reference to Mike Hwang]*

Water: Cooler

Mustache: The glasses with the nose and moustache

Senior class: JP: "Do I know anyone in the senior class?? Seriously?"

Me: "Er... Alex and Jefferson?"

JP: Tired and sleepy all the time.

*[Interviewer's note: Perhaps she hasn't met Judy and Kathleen]*

Distillation: Chem? I dunno.

Freshmen class: Horton

# Jingpeng He

Hometown:

Ithaca, NY/Chapel Hill, NC

Expected Major:

Biology

Sandra Quah '12

After a slightly complicated ordeal with catching buses, JP arrives at Cascadilla! We have a fun tour of Casc, visiting people in their rooms while JP curiously examines the interesting stuff we have in our rooms and remarks on how cool they are! (Yes, we are cool.) Then we went off to Ivy Room to eat and have the interview!

**Top three things you want/do not want to accomplish before graduation:**

Do's: Learn to play piano, find a major, watch a play/musical in Schwartz or Riskey or something like that.

Don'ts: Fail a class or a prelim, get swine flu, get kidnapped/stabbed or anything in Colletown

**What was your first impression of Cornell? CBS?**

Cornell is very picturesque, especially the Arts quad. It's a very typical college scene, and people are really friendly and actually care.

CBS people are really friendly, they come up to you and want to talk to you; they're very forward and honest about their walk with God, willing to share their experiences. I really like sharing time. CBS is a tight community with people who care.

**How did you hear about CBS?**

At FICCC, my youth group leaders were in CBS (Kat,

Alex, Jefferson), and they would talk about it. When they found out I was going to Cornell, they asked me if I wanted to come to CBS. I also saw them tabling at orientation.

**If you could be a kitchen appliance, what would you be? And why?**

Coffeemaker. 'Cause then people can't function in the morning without me. I'll be very important.

**What did you want to be when you were in second grade?**

In 8th grade I wanted to be an astronaut, I guess I might've wanted to sing professionally. Be a pop star.

JP is a cool, native Ithacan freshman! She knows all about these Asian grocery stores here that I've never heard of. Anyway, I had fun showing her around Cascadilla and having a meal together. She's friendly, laughs easily (especially around Jamie. Then again, who doesn't?), and can often be found at Trillium for lunch on Tuesdays and Thursdays. She doesn't answer all e-mails very promptly, but that shouldn't defer you from getting to know her!

On a warm Wednesday afternoon, Kimberly and I sit down to chat at Big Red Barn. As I wait for the after-2PM-free-popcorn, I am entertained by this interesting freshman and fellow cello-player from California. Please continue reading to find out more about her!

**Top three things you want/do not want to accomplish before graduation:**

Upon asking Kimberly what she hopes to accomplish before she has a Cornell diploma in hand, her desire to learn is discovered. Kimberly wishes to learn as much as she can while she is here, and especially aspires to take Introduction to Culinary Arts in the Hotel School. Kimberly is also excited to see more of what God's plans are for her in the future. And hopefully, by the time she graduates, she hopes that she will know what her vocational calling is in life.

**What was your first impression of Cornell? CBS?**

The first time Kimberly came to Cornell was August of 2008 before her senior year in high school. Her first impression of Cornell was its beauty – the waterfalls and the beautiful scenery. However, her first impression once classes started was replaced with the ominous coursework. In terms of CBS, Kimberly thought the people in CBS were super-friendly, though

a little weird. But that didn't bother her since she claims that she is also weird.

**How did you hear about CBS?**

Kimberly heard about CBS from Judy Liang, since they were part of the same church youth group in California.

**If you could be a kitchen appliance, what would you be? And why?**

If she could be any kitchen appliance, Kimberly wants to be an oven since she likes to bake, though she is not very good at it. *[Interviewer's note: Ask her to make Amish friendship bread for you!]*

**What did you want to be when you were in second grade?**

As a young girl, Kimberly aspired to be an astronaut *[Amazing!]*. Alas, she cannot pursue that dream because she lacks perfect eyesight. According to Kimberly, in space, contact lenses and glasses do not stay on your eyeball/face.

By now, it's after 2 PM and there's free popcorn for all at Big Red Barn. I continue to converse with Kimberly and learn the art of making perfect microwave popcorn (once the popping occurs at 1 second intervals, the popcorn is done. Get to know this awesome girl, and if you are finding it hard to catch her, her secret weakness is a good book. Give her a good book and she will be unable to put it down until she finishes! Confiscate the book and use it as leverage. :-)

# Kathleen Chang '10

Hometown:

Saratoga, CA

Expected Major:

Government (Pre-med)

Purple: "It's a color; I'm wearing purple!"

Junior class: Small

Concrete: "Concrete... like pavement... or not abstract?"

Sophomore class: Large/Cascadilla

Water: "I want some water right NOW!"

*[Interviewer's note: with emphasis; Kimberly isn't actually demanding]*

Mustache: "I don't know anyone who has a mustache..."

Senior class: "I'm sad they are leaving :-("

Distillation: "We just learned about this this morning in Chemistry! And how you add phases and you can increase effectiveness of the distillation..."

Freshmen class: "Yay!"

# Kimberly Hui



First impression of Cornell: According to Kimberly, she's bad at drawing, hence the use of stick figures and labeling. However, the interviewer would like to point out that her drawing is very clear and without ambiguities and would like to recommend her to join the DACC (Duffield Alcove Cartoon-drawing Club).

First impression of Cornell:

Snow – Cold

Rain – Cold

Rain Boots – Something we don't ever use in California.



## Word Association

Purple: Barney

Junior class: Red/busy [Interviewer's note: in her high school, every grade had a different color, hence "red", but I asked her about the junior class in CBS, hence "busy"]

Concrete: Ouch!

Sophomore class: Yellow/ you! (Rachel)

Water: Chemistry

Mustache: Pringles [Interviewer's note: oh yeaaa...]

Senior class: Blue + bye bye/ Kathleen + Judy

Distillation: "That's an interesting word..."

\*shakes head\* "I don't know..." But after

I started explaining it... "Ohhh distilling!

Funnels!"

Freshman class: Me =)

# Maize Wang

After chatting and eating with Maize for two hours, I concluded that she was not just a Jackie-look-alike. The meet-up was just a scratch at the surface of getting to know her, but I can already tell that Maize is a friendly, talented, and ambitious lady, excited to explore this next stage of life. We sat down with our slices of pizza and started talking.

### Top 3 things you want/do not want to accomplish before graduation:

Do: (1) sleepover at Uris Library, (2) maintain a reasonable GPA [Interviewer's note: 4.78, jkjk] (3) manage to graduate on time.

Don't: (1) get in trouble, (2) get kicked out, (3) become isolated from other people and doubt faith.

### What was your first impression of Cornell? CBS?

She first came in April, not even knowing where Ithaca, NY was. And she thought it would be more urban, so of course she was surprised by the trees and open land. Maize thought CBS was very welcoming and she could connect with people easily. After searching for the right word, she said, "timeless." [Interviewer's note: <3]

### How did you hear about CBS?

She saw chalkings on North and heard through tabling.

Hometown:  
Oakpark, CA/HARBIN, China  
Expected Major:  
Biology (minor in business & music?)

## Rachel Har '12

### If you could be a kitchen appliance, what would you be? And why?

Whisk, especially for eggs! She said that her family [Interviewer's note: as does mine!] uses chopsticks to mix eggs, but one day when she went to a friend's house, she saw them using an egg whisk and was amazed by it [Interviewer's note: she was really excited telling me about it!] She used the word "exotic" to describe it. ^\_^

### What did you want to be when you were in second grade?

A marine biologist! She explained that she lived near the beach, and her dad would bring her to the really nice marine biology lab at UCSB.

I began with the interview, but throughout the meal, we talked about a lot of different things, from classic books we liked to horror films, from the origin of our names (ask her about her name!) to high school activities. Even though she picked Cornell out of a pile of papers including other college choices, I'm glad she did end up coming here. Now I have someone to tear up with during a movie! :)

After two weeks of failed attempts to set an interview date, I finally sat down with this busy freshman after CBS large group. Although we were rather unsuccessful in brushing aside our distractions (which included an amateur fiddler and a bicep-loving male model), we managed to move through the interview—armed with my set of scripted questions and Olivia with her thoughtful and funny answers.

**What are the top three things you want to accomplish before graduation?**

1. Survive two semesters of autotutorial biology. It equals death. It ruins my life.
2. Be able to walk up the footbridge slope by MVR without breathing heavily.
3. I want to be a grand-PP! Or at least an older PP.

**What was your first impression of Cornell? CBS?**

I hated Cornell at first, much to Elbert's disappointment. I was looking into the Ag school, because I thought it was the only state school. During the info session, none of the majors appealed to me. There were also lots of hills and too much walking. But then I found out about the Human Ecology school! The majors were more interesting, so it's good.

My first impression of CBS was when I was a prefresh last year. I thought it was cool how people loved CBS so much; during alumni weekend, a bajillion CBS alums

Jacqueline Liu '12

Hometown:  
Rochester, NY  
Expected Major:  
Human Biology, Health, and Society

Purple: Pink  
Junior class: Small  
Concrete: Heavy  
Sophomore class: Crazy "Maybe just Mike Hwang"  
Water: Pure water machine at RPCC and Appel  
Mustache: Weird  
Senior class: I love them "Or bitter. Just Alex."

Distillation: Ahsa 아사  
Freshmen class: Family

came back to visit, so I got to see a whole range of CBS-ness.

**How did you hear about CBS?**

Elbert, Jeremy Ho, and Mike Zai. Jeremy and Mike are people from my church at home, really old alums.

**If you could be a kitchen appliance, what would you be? And why?**

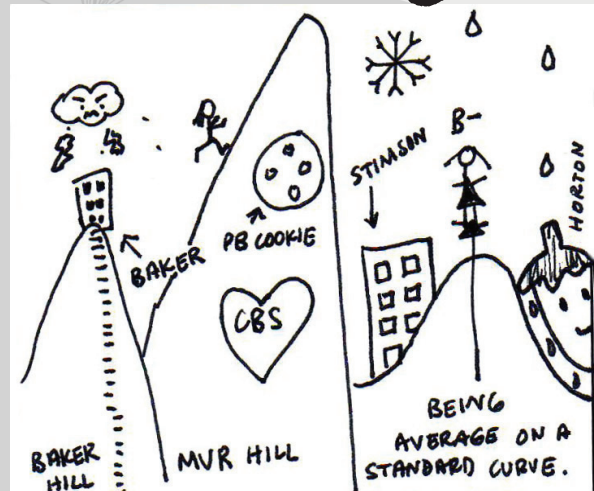
An Asian electric hot water maker, because I like cup noodles and hot chocolate! [Interviewer: What about a microwave?] You can't microwave cup noodles! [Interviewer: Uh, really?]

**What did you want to be when you were in second grade?**

First I wanted to be a teacher. Then I wanted to own my own craft company, which then evolved into being a CEO of the company, which fits me because I like being in charge.

The thing about Olivia that strikes me the most is her love for people (no one who walked by within a six-foot radius of us went unacknowledged—a rather startling statistic, in my opinion). I am eager to see how God will continue to mature Olivia in her faith and fill her with His love—both for God and for others.

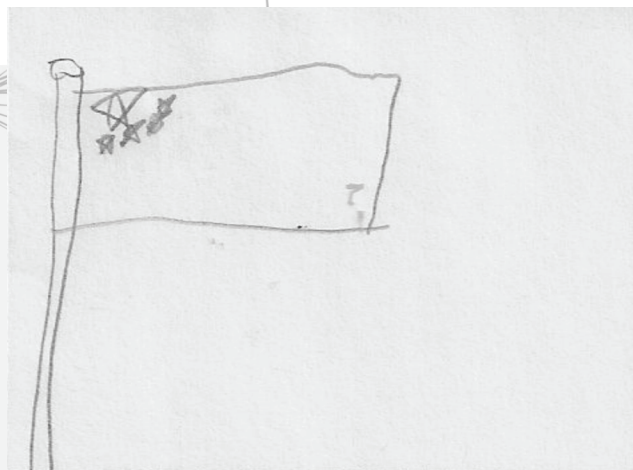
# Olivia Lee



First impression of Cornell: It's a collage of her college experiences [Interviewer's note: heh punny] with a couple of steep hills that she has to climb up every day, expressed through highly exaggerated and emotive illustrations. An additional abstracted hill to the right of the drawing is representative of the standard curve, with her resting rather uneasily on the mean (peak). Interspersed throughout the vertically alternating landscape are brief cutouts of other experiences integral to her Cornell life so far, such as CBS and cookies.



First impression of Cornell: Pengfei spent much of his first few weeks hanging out with Chinese international students. Hence, he draws the Chinese flag in memory of his first few weeks here at Cornell.



## Word Association

Purple: Weird [*Interviewer's note: He wasn't ready yet!*]

Junior class: Don't know them =(

Concrete: Pavement

Sophomore class: Kimchee – Tim Shin  
from Ahsa 아사

Water: Non-carbonated, what I always drink

Mustache: Annoying, itchy

Senior class: Red – Comes from high school

Distillation: Water – Also from Ahsa 아사

Freshmen class: Lost – They have the lost look in their eyes

# Pengfei Chen

Hometown:  
Los Angeles, CA/China  
Expected Major:  
Chemistry

Alex Lee '10

Pengfei and I sat down to eat at RPCC for dinner. As we sat down and chatted about the general stuff like his home or his major, he shared his conflict about whether to call his hometown Los Angeles or China, and why he has decided to be a chemistry major despite not being too crazy about chemistry here. Eventually he settled on LA as his hometown and concluded that chemistry was still the thing he liked best.

**What are some things you want/do not want to accomplish before graduation?**

One of the things Pengfei wants to do is see fireflies. He complains that there's too much pollution in the city region, but that it's much better here to see them. Also, he wants to learn how to swim. He hasn't taken the swim test yet and passed on beginner swim this semester. Just like any other student, he hopes to never fail a class before graduation.

**What was your first impression of Cornell? CBS?**

Pengfei came with a pretty gloomy impression of Cornell that began with the bad weather from Cornell Days last year. In terms of CBS, he thought that it was nice and really big. He was surprised because Cornell didn't give him the impression that there were that many Christians on campus.

**How did you hear about CBS?**

Pengfei happened upon CBS at the fellowship fair on the

Balch lawns. He believes it was Mike (didn't specify which one) who gave him a flyer and invited him.

**If you could be a kitchen appliance, which one would you be and why?**

After some thought, Pengfei settled on being an oven. He believes they are very passionate, and specifically said, "Even though you put something in that doesn't smell nice, it will always come out smelling nice." He finally concluded that an oven was better than a microwave.

**What did you want to be when you were in second grade?**

Pengfei wanted to be an army general. He and his friends used to play a card game with military people and he always admired the general. He was cool, bold and powerful but gave Pengfei the impression of a peaceful person. Pengfei is a guy with many sides to him. He was able to tell me about several of his memories from the high school and before days, as well as some of his memories at Cornell already. If you haven't gotten to know Pengfei, take some time to find him and talk to him. I'm sure he'll share some cool stories about himself and his past.

Ritchie, what could I write about Ritchie? He is an interesting chap who finds amusement in many things, including cows. Cows are cute. Anyway, it is always a pleasure to sit down with Ritchie and talk about life. So let's find out what Ritchie has to say about his experiences as a freshman.

### Top three things you want/do not want to accomplish before graduation:

Ritchie initially responded by saying, "That's weird, I don't know". But after some more thought, Ritchie decided that he would 1) "Figure out what I'm doing when I grow up", 2) Play a clarinet solo piece with piano accompaniment in a recital, and 3) "Get taller".

### What was your first impression of Cornell? CBS?

Ritchie thought Cornell was "very BIG and pretty". And who wouldn't? It's huge! When it comes to CBS though, Ritchie found the "people to be very open and friendly, and very different". He continued by saying that he has "never experienced something like this before". Overall, he liked it. So when he found us to be different, it was a good different. =)

*Elbert Chang '11*

*Hometown:  
Holmdel, NJ  
Expected Major:  
Chemical Engineering*

Purple: Barney  
Junior class: Elbert  
Concrete: Sidewalk  
Sophomore class: Mike Hwang  
Water: Wet  
Mustache: Hairy  
Senior class: Eric  
Distillation: Bleh [Interviewer's note: I know that feeling... >.>]  
Freshmen class: Olivia

### *Word Association*

### How did you hear about CBS?

It all started when Samm, Olivia, and Tim Hu met Ritchie during orientation. They simply asked Ritchie if he wanted to join them as they ventured off to CBS, and Ritchie did join them. The rest is history.

### If you could be a kitchen appliance, what would you be? And why?

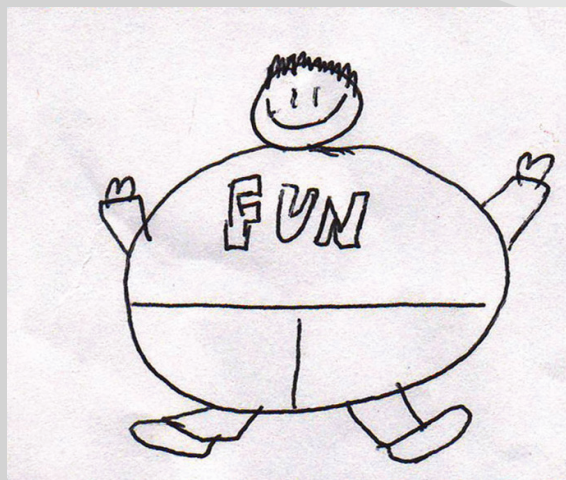
Ritchie would want to be an oven so that he would be able to smell the good food that others get to eat.

### What did you want to be when you were in second grade?

Ritchie was very typical in second grade. He desired to be an astronaut or the president.

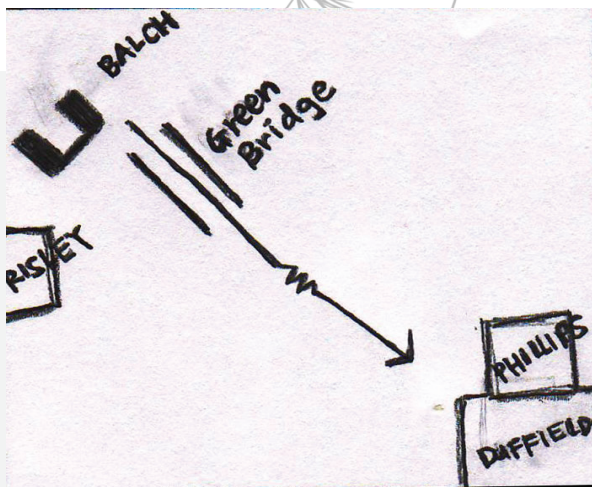
After getting through these questions, we started to talk about the typical ChemE stuff. Unfortunately, though, Ritchie had to rush off to chem lecture in Baker, so our time was cut short. Ritchie is a guy who is still open and seeking new things. Let us keep on praying that he will find what he is seeking for here as he continues his adventure through Cornell. Best of luck as a ChemE!! Yea yea!! =D

# Ritchie In



First impression of Cornell: Cornell, to Ritchie, is a big fat person, whose largeness is due to the enormous amounts of fun that Cornell has to offer Ritchie.

First impression of Cornell: I wanna draw Balch and an arrow and Duffield...and that's how much freshmen have to walk every Friday night...I don't appreciate this freshmen hazing...



# Samantha Fung

## Word Association

Purple: Barney  
 Junior class: Calm "Because compared to seniors and sophomores...they're calm."  
 Concrete: Hard  
 Sophomore class: Crazy  
 Water: H<sub>2</sub>O/universal solvent  
 Mustache: French  
 Senior class: Violent/Loud  
 Distillation: YOU (Kat Ng)  
 Freshmen class: The best!

Hometown:  
 Castro Valley, CA  
 Expected Major:  
 Biology/English

Samm and I took a much needed break from homework and grabbed salads at Terrace. Reassuring her that this was not an interrogation, we delved into the interview.

### Top three things you want/do not want to accomplish before graduation:

I want to climb the clock tower even though that's lame.  
 I want to finish reading the Bible.  
 I wanted to sit in the AD White library within the bookshelves (but I've already done that!).

### What was your first impression of Cornell? CBS?

So many Asians! I was so surprised! [Interviewer's note: wait... in Cornell or in both?] Both. CBS...so violent. Seniors. Tsk tsk.

### How did you hear about CBS?

Nathan! Actually, no. I was walking with a bunch of freshmen after dinner and you know, people are always quarter carding so I started to ignore them. But, I passed by these two guys and one of them stepped out and it was actually Eric. He asked if we were interested in Christian fellowships and I was. Little did I know, Nathan was right

## Katarina Ng '12

behind him and he was like, "Samm!" [Nathan goes to my home church]

### If you could be a kitchen appliance, what would you be? And why?

\*stares\* I like the words island, lazy susan, and spinny chair. But I don't have a good one. I don't know what to say!

### What did you want to be when you were in second grade?

Either a teacher or a horse vet. Teacher just because I like to talk to kids; I like to talk to my stuffed animals. Horses because I like horses, but then I found out I had to put them to sleep and I didn't wanna do that.

We spent the next 25 minutes getting to know each other even more as she asked about CBS and felly dinner skits; while I asked about her time in Singapore. I can't wait to watch this sister grow in the next couple of year. DINOSAUR! :)

Over a sunset dinner at Okenshields, I had the pleasure to get to know Shirley. To my surprise, we share many things in common, such as a dual cultural background and an interest in cities. Shirley's broad worldview, keen observations, and spirited attitude make her one charming lady! Shirley, I wish you much blessings and progress at Cornell.

**Top three things you want/do not want to accomplish before graduation:**

I want to... 1. Finish reading the Bible, 2. Go to a hockey game and throw a fish into Lynah Ring, and 3. Browse through books in the Rare Manuscript Library

**What was your first impression of Cornell? CBS?**

Looking out the airplane coming into Ithaca, I thought, "this place is a wilderness!" The airport was so small; it looked like someone's house. Cornell strikes me as quite a liberal place; people are open about their opinions. As for CBS, my first impression is its Asian-ness and seriousness.

*Esther Wong '10*

Hometown:  
Shanghai/Houston, TX  
Expected Major:  
SNES (Enviro. Sci.)

Purple: Royal

Junior class: \*makes an unsure face with an eyebrow raised\*

Concrete: Cement

Sophomore class: Scared (of them)!

Water: Liquid

Mustache: Mexican

Senior class: \*nervous chuckle\* Weird...

Distillation: Cornell

Freshmen class: short

*Word Association*

**How did you hear about CBS?**

From Pastor Paul. Pastor Paul came from my home church in Houston, I got his contact information and spoke with him when I arrived.

**If you could be a kitchen appliance, what would you be? And why?**

I have an endearing childhood memory of my family's pear peeler. This peeler was pretty big; you put the pear in place and turn a knob to the side, which peels the pear in circular motions. It's interesting how the machine is almost too complicated for such a simple task.

**What did you want to be when you were in second grade?**

I wanted to be a doctor because a doctor can help people. I thought a useful way to help someone is by healing others. Well, I didn't know that many professions then!

Indeed, since arriving at Cornell, Shirley has become interested in the field of city planning, with a focus on environmental issues. Shirley aspires to contribute to her hometown Shanghai, perhaps as an environmental planner!

*Shirley Qian*



First impression of Cornell: The clock tower, the greenery, and Libe Slope!

First impression of Cornell: weather patterns = beautifully unpredictable weather; emoticons = expressions you see on campus; Baker lab = on many hills and so hard to get to; stars = you can actually see stars in the sky; Balch arch sings = she hears them from her window.



Zim Yang '11

# Tiffany Lei

Tiffany admits that she may be regretting her Mat-Sci decision because of all the bad stories she's been hearing about it, although she still likes it to some degree. As we started our interview, she cleared the extra table in her spacious Balch single so that I could have workspace. We had finally landed a meeting time in her busy schedule!

## Top three things you want/do not want to accomplish before graduation:

- 1) Without hesitation, she said, "Not getting sick ever, ever again. Or injured, for that matter." She sprained her ankle after slipping in Phillips Hall one rainy day. The day she was off her crutches, a bathroom door slammed on her finger as she was waving to someone. Then she caught the flu and missed her prelim. She was quarantined and developed a cold the day after her symptoms subsided. She had a bloody nose right before her next prelim. Then she had a cough and congestion, which followed her into Fall Break. Some time later, her arm was pinched by an infamous Baker 200 folding table. She has had a fever twice in Nov. and was coping with a sore throat and eye infection as she shared these misfortunes with me.
- 2) Aside from surviving school and doing well, she wants to manage her time--hanging out with friends, fellowshiping, studying, and time alone with God.
- 3) To gain more wisdom and understanding. (Prov 3:5-6)

## What was your first impression of Cornell? CBS?

Cornell - When she arrived, she felt placed in a safe environment. The professors are really into what they teach, everyone here is really smart, and there is good hummus (i.e., ones in Jewish dining hall). "Hahaha... and the HILLS." Tiffany was surprised at how she has

- Purple: Yellow
- Junior class: Funny
- Concrete: Evidence
- Sophomore class: Cool
- Water: Ice
- Mustache: (rofl)
- Senior class : Wise
- Distillation: Pipettes
- Freshmen class: Eccentric

## Hometown:

Maryland/Philadelphia

## Expected Major:

Materials Science & Engineering

to walk to the other side of campus for class every morning. Cornell is no doubt a very scenic place. She commented on the many squirrels ("why are there so many?") that aren't even afraid of humans.

She has also seen a few chipmunks, seagulls and some huge crows/ravens. The buildings also leave strong impressions in her mind because of their Harry Potter-esque styles (especially Balch and Risley).

CBS - She found the fellowship very welcoming, encouraging and friendly. She really likes the praise sets and prayer times during them. She is encouraged by people's passion for God and the sharing times. She sees CBS as a huge, supportive family.

## How did you hear about CBS?

She heard from a friend and FICCC members, and she also saw the chalkings.

## If you could be a kitchen appliance, what would you be? And why?

A coffee-maker. She would be doing something very productive and useful by helping people a lot. Tiffany, however, doesn't drink coffee much.

## What did you want to be when you were in second grade?

She wanted to be a doctor because she thought it was really cool. According to her mom, she wanted to be the President of the US in Pre-K.

If it weren't for limited space, I would have included all the anecdotes and unique details that Tiffany contributed. You would surely understand her open personality if you have talked to her. As I prepared to leave, she pointed out the Costco-like nature of her room and began offering me snacks to take home. Despite the illnesses and injuries that have seemingly consumed her just this first semester, Tiffany maintains an enthusiastic nature and an open heart for sharing.

Word Association

I walked with Tim Chen to an empty alcove in Duffield. It was 9pm, and it was dark out—which it usually is at 9pm. As I took out my interview questions, I wondered what I would learn about this tall, handsomely dressed freshman. All I ended up learning were pretty much the answers to the interview questions – but there was something more to Tim Chen that could not be expressed through words on a paper. To get to the heart of Tim Chen—well, I think you’ll have to talk to him yourself.

**Top three things you want/do not want to accomplish before graduation:**

First, I want an internship in Costa Rica because Costa Rica is big on ecotourism, and I think sustainable hospitality is going to be a big thing in the future. Second, I want to conduct undergraduate research in sustainable hospitality of course with CHR (Center for Hospitality Research) to get a taste of the academic side and because my whole family is full of tree huggers. We own a Prius, and my two brothers are working for tree-hugger companies, and I think there’s a Biblical aspect to it as well—that we are to be good stewards of the Lord’s gift. I think it’s a good way to incorporate my beliefs in my work. Third, I want to be a member of Cornell’s EMS. I’ve always wanted to be a part of that, and I had an interview with them earlier this year, but they turned me down. I’m currently taking the EMT gym class, and I could save your life if you had a heart attack right now...I pride myself in that.

**What was your first impression of Cornell? CBS?**

When I first visited Cornell as a pre-frosh – well Cornell was very cold at the time – I thought that people here were elitist. As a frosh, however, especially after CBS, I thought the people were actually very welcoming. The staff and

faculty will do anything they can to accommodate your requests, for example. I just felt taken care of. And as for CBS, I thought the people there go the extra mile to make me feel welcome. When I got sick for example, an anonymous dropped by with a bag of candy and vitamin C. Even in my old church, they wouldn’t do that. I just feel like people care in CBS.

**How did you hear about CBS?**

I heard about CBS through my friend, Leslie. She’s a senior now, but she goes to a different fellowship.

**If you could be a kitchen appliance, what would you be? And why?**

Wait—that’s an actual question?! If any kitchen appliance...I would be a toaster. I love toast for one thing, and I feel that I embody the character of a toaster as well. On the outside, I’m sleek and shiny (Tim pauses to smooth his suit)—but on the inside (another pause as he looks into my eyes)—I can kill you. I can heat you and electrify you to death. I’m also a warm individual. I’m warm on the inside.

**What did you want to be when you were in second grade?**

In second grade, I had a dream—to be an agent for the FBI. The dream continued basically until sixth or seventh grade. I don’t know really what happened to it, but eventually you have to get realistic. I didn’t want to get shot...

What surprised me the most were the different sides to Tim Chen. Although on the one hand, he was the friendly, always smiling hotelier, I felt chills when he described his toaster-like ability to kill. Just be careful to get the settings right—too much can burn you to a crisp, but at just the right amount, you can feel warm and golden brown inside.

Justin Deng '12

Hometown:

Sunnyville, CA

Expected Major:

Hotel Administration

Purple: Barney

Junior class: Busy people

Concrete: Sidewalk

Sophomore class: Michael Hwang

Water: Cup

Mustache: Captain Hook

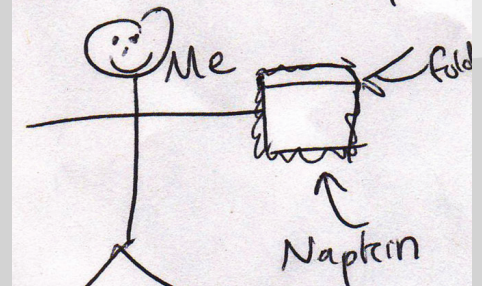
Senior class: Old people

Distillation: Bottled water

Freshmen class: Incompetence

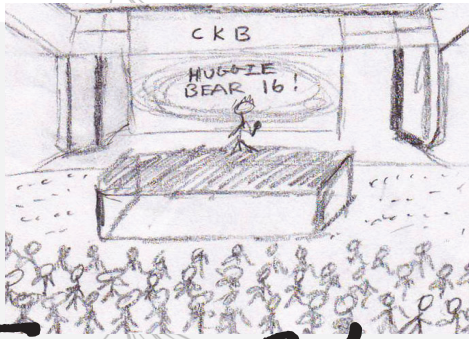
Timothy Chen

The only thing we learn at the Hotel School



First impression of Cornell: He drew this because people told him that hoteliers only learn to fold napkins and make beds.

First impression of Cornell: I will never forget that first night of freshmen orientation, where all 3000 freshmen gathered on the greens in front of CKB and “bonded.” Huggie bear was quite interesting to say the least. That night was a night of meeting so many new people and forgetting just as many. I was a face in the crowd, alone amidst the raging sea. Now I have a place called home, with brothers and sisters I call family: CBS ‘13.



Justin Sun '08

# Tim Hu

Which freshman did I have the privilege of interviewing? Tim. Tim who? Tim Hu! This bright, fun, and forward-thinking freshman met with me in the Dickson Hall lounge (although he lives in Mews and occasionally, Duffield) where he was studying.

**Top three things you want/do not want to accomplish before graduation:**

- 1) To try out every project team and look at their electrical systems. It's not very realistic, but it would be cool.
- 2) To get key card access to every building on campus, so it'll be easy to get around campus! It would be helpful during the winter when it gets cold outside.
- 3) To EV to every part of the campus. It would be tough, but I think it's definitely possible.

**What was your first impression of Cornell? CBS?**

Cornell Days was the first day when I was here, and my windshield frosted. That really disappointed me, and I knew what I was in for if I came here. During my first time at CBS, it seemed really intense with all the sharing and quiet time and lots of singing. I was like, woah, I've never done this before. I wasn't sure if I liked it. And for a month or so, I didn't know. I thought I was gonna go to GCF, but slowly over time, I discovered that I felt a sense of family much more at CBS. I started going to NCPM and I really liked it though I went only once. I started liking large group a lot more, and after going through Scripture every week, understood why CBS wants everything to be rooted in the Word. CBS is really just a good break from a busy week and a time to quiet down and praise God. I never really appreciated being in a body with other Christians, because it wasn't as stressful

Purple: Barney!  
 Junior class: Elbert  
 Concrete: Concrete  
 Sophomore class: Michael? [Interviewer: Which Michael?] Uh...Hwang? Chin?  
 They're both Michaels!  
 Water: Avatar (from The Last Airbender)  
 Mustache: Justin [Interviewer's note: I guess I forgot to shave this morning]  
 Senior class: Alex  
 Distillation: Katarina Ng  
 Freshmen class: Family <3  
 Hometown: Fairfax, VA  
 Expected Major: Electrical & Computer Engineering

in high school. I'd go more as a leader to small group during high school, but here at CBS, I've been served a lot more than I expected.

**How did you hear about CBS?**

Tabling in RPCC. Same day that I found out about FICCC. I didn't expect to go to CBS but ended up going and enjoying it.

**If you could be a kitchen appliance, what would you be? And why?**

Something very simple, profound, abstract. I do like microwaves. But if used the wrong way, it can be lethal. It's a good substitution for a lot of things, but if you misuse it, you can kill yourself. It uses a lot of energy, but it also gives out a lot of energy.

I like being useful and practical. You can also mutate people's DNA and change them if you're a microwave.

**What did you want to be when you were in second grade?**

A computer engineer; my dad is a computer scientist. I didn't know what he did, but I've always been decent with computers. A friend of mine took apart his VCR once, and I was so intrigued about what the chip in it did. I wanted to understand the bare bones of electronics. I was more high-level computer-oriented. My focus has shifted down to the electronics resistors type of thing. I've thought about being a game designer but I'd feel bad making games that ruin the lives of people.

I am thankful to have a brother like Tim in our fellowship, and seeing how God has been using him to encourage not only the freshmen class but also other members of CBS has been a great blessing. If you haven't yet had a chance to meet this cool, collected, and engineering savvy freshman, you're missing out big time!

Word Association

I first met Vivian in F.I.G. bible study, and got to know her a little better when we prayed together. Vivian is a composed, honest and sincere person. It was an honor to be able to interview her.

**Top three things you want/do not want to accomplish before graduation:**

I will ideally know what I want to do with my life, and I want to be a better person, in the sense of not being so self-absorbed all the time. I also want to find something that I really love to do and can serve others and God through, like music or volunteering or something.

Do not want to accomplish: I don't want to turn into a super academically driven and narrow-minded person. I don't want to always stay in my comfort zone.

**What was your first impression of Cornell? CBS?**

Orientation week: not a good impression of Cornell. Part of that was just because I didn't know what I was expecting. It seemed like another year of school, and I didn't like leaving home. I felt like people were pretending to be nice and forcing you to be sociable. CBS: I didn't come to CBS right away. I went to other

## Jamie Tsai '12

Hometown:  
Portland, OR  
Expected Major:  
Biology

Purple: Cow  
Junior class: Senior year  
Concrete: Sidewalk  
Sophomore class: You [Interviewer's note:  
Meaning me! Hehe.]  
Water: bottle  
Mustache: Handle bar  
Senior class: Sweatshirt  
Distillation: Water  
Freshmen class: 2013

## Word Association

fellowships. But when I came to CBS, I felt at home. I felt that I could relate to people better.

**How did you hear about CBS?**

I can't remember if it was through Samm or if it was through people handing out fliers.

**If you could be a kitchen appliance, what would you be? And why?**

I would be a rubber spatula because they're flexible and adapt to whatever you want them to do, like scraping brownie batter. And it brings back good memories with my mom.

**What did you want to be when you were in second grade?**

A lawyer. That was when I was really stubborn and my dad said I was good at arguing.

It was interesting to hear Vivian answer these questions. We had similar first impressions of CBS, and it was encouraging to hear how mature her answers were to what she wanted to accomplish or not accomplish before graduation. I'm excited to get to know her better and to grow with her in Christ during the years to come!

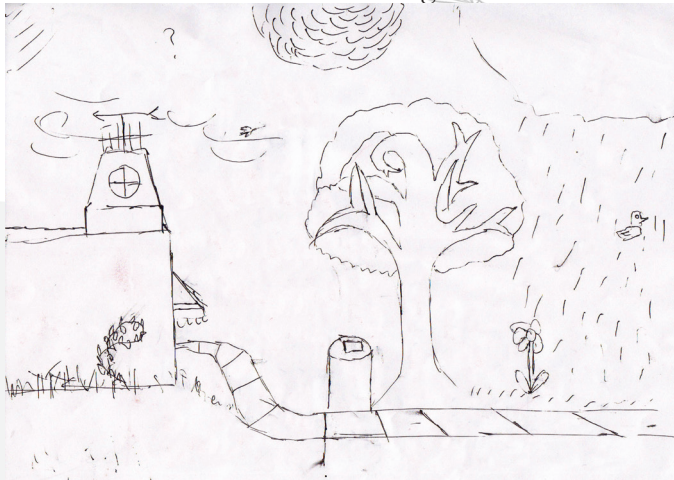
# Vivian Yang



First impression of Cornell: Clock tower came to mind. The other main thing was leaves during autumn because in Portland there are more evergreens.



First impression of Cornell: It's supposed to be a very whimsical drawing because Cornell has lots of different things. It seems very diverse and so I tried to draw a lot of random things.



## Word Association

Purple: Blue  
 Junior class: Three  
 Concrete: Gray  
 Sophomore class: Tree  
 Water: Waves  
 Mustache: Smile  
 Senior class: End  
 Distillation: Drop  
 Freshmen class: Weird

Hometown:  
 Albany, NY  
 Expected Major:  
 Mathematics

Michael Hwang '12

# Yipu Wang

It was a quiet afternoon at Statler that day. I was waiting for Yipu, when all of the sudden, I heard a terrible noise behind me. I think you all know what kind of noise I'm talking about—the kind a baby orphan makes when it's being attacked by ten unicorns (the evil kind), five ninjas, two dragons, and seven Vikings. I turned around slowly to see what was going on, and that was exactly the scene. The helpless baby was surrounded and if you've ever seen an angry unicorn, you know there's almost no hope left for its victim. I stood there, frozen in fear, when I saw a shadow leap into the circle and pick up the baby. He then, with the baby in one arm, fought off every unicorn, nullified every ninja, destroyed both dragons, and vaporized every Viking. And with bloody unicorn corpses spewed across Statler Hall, the dark figure walked towards me. My heart screamed, "Who was this brave man? I need to know!" He heard the cry of my heart and answered in a manly whisper, "Wang. Yipu Wang."

### Top three things you want/do not want to accomplish before graduation:

- 1) Know what I want to do after graduation
- 2) Find out how many steps it takes to walk from North Campus to engineering quad
- 3) Climb on the roof of one of the buildings

### What was your first impression of Cornell? CBS?

There's a lot of stuff to do outside the dorm and there's always activities going on. The campus is beautiful, but

the only thing I don't like is that I almost get run over by cars like once a week. The food here is good too, but I'm kind of sick of it by now. I guess it's because I eat at Appel everyday.

My first impression of CBS was that everyone was extremely friendly. It was exciting to see people I knew beforehand at CBS and to see how involved they were.

### How did you hear about CBS?

From Richard Wang. He goes to the same church as I do back at home.

### If you could be a kitchen appliance, what would you be? And why?

A toaster. It can't do a lot of things, but what it can do, it does pretty well.

### What did you want to be when you were in second grade?

I wanted to be train conductor. I was really obsessed with toy trains when I was younger and thought they were really cool.

I'll admit, it was certainly awkward interviewing Yipu with a baby orphan in his arms. And as we walked out of Statler, his hand in mine, my hand in the baby's, the baby's hand in his mouth, I realized this friendship was beautiful. If you ever have time to talk to Yipu, ask him about this story. I'm sure you won't be disappointed.

# Let's get F.A.T!

Grace Chen '10

This past semester, Rachel and Anthony led us on a fulfilling journey through the Gospel to encourage us to become F.A.T. (Anthony even made us dinner!). This Bible study on discipleship filled our eager hearts with stories of how the twelve disciples walked with Jesus—ultimately revealing what the art of discipleship requires. The three main aspects of how to become FAT were addressed as we looked at examples of how to become faithful (Matthew 13:20-23), available, and teachable (Titus 2). As we fed our minds and hearts with the lessons and parables from Jesus' teachings, our Bible study leaders also blessed us by challenging us to put into action what we were learning about—particularly in light of the prayer partnerships that God has placed in our lives. We had a chance to taste the different, practical applications of discipleship like the need to be rooted in faith, persistent in prayer, and above all, filled with the love of Christ as we answer to God's call for us to make disciples of all nations (Matthew 28:19). As we feasted on God's Word each week, it became clear that cultivating discipleship as a spiritual discipline is not only essential for our growth as individual followers of Christ but also a command to walk alongside other brothers and sisters. Jesus did not call his disciples to take the act of following him lightly (Mark 14:32-41); yet there is also the hope that even when we fail as disciples, He will continue to call us back, despite any of our doubts. We saw how God can do immeasurably more than we can even imagine—if we simply follow as Jesus commands and remain rooted in Him like the seed that falls on good soil (Mark 11:20-25) Through this Bible study, God definitely convicted me to trust that God can move and grow our prayer partnerships ever more deeply in Him—and to not take these relationships for granted.

Maize Wang '13  
Vivian Yang '13

## Families in Genesis

FIG is a small, cozy Bible study where everyone feels free to discuss. Of course, there are awkward silences every now and then, but Kathleen and Rachel (or else Van-Kim) are great at dispersing it and asking mind-boggling questions. Why does God “remember” Noah if He never forgets? How can we balance faith and deeds, when “it is by grace you have been saved, through faith” (Eph. 2:8) but “faith without deeds is useless” (James 2:20)? Some questions don't have answers, but that just lets us appreciate God's awesomeness even more. As leaders, Kathleen and Rachel are also fun and lively. If we're not marveling at Abraham's faith or wondering about Lot's daughters, we're laughing and having a good time. Often, we do both. Since all of us are away from home, it's nice to talk about families in the Bible and to be reminded of our own family ties.

Jeffrey Yu '13

& Jesse Liu '13

# Genesis

Genesis 3:21 – “The Lord God made garments of skin for Adam and his wife, and clothed them.”

What do you get when you have seven weeks of Bible studying, six chapters of Genesis, five “mystery” snacks, four wheels on Henry’s car, three couches, two Michaels (Chin and Hwang), and one Mott House? The Genesis Bible Study!!! The Genesis Bible Study led by Henry and Justin meets at the Mott House every Wednesday night from 7:15 to 8:45. Some attendees include Jamie Tsai, Michael Chin, Nebiyu Tulu, Jonathan Yu, Patricia Sutjojo, and Michael Hwang. Each week, we read through a chapter, note important verses, ask questions, and analyze the text. After this, we discuss what lessons we have learned and how we will apply them in the future. A few students offer to pray and then we conclude the study.

Each week, the leaders prepared in advance a snack that connects to the topic

studied for the group to share. For example, Henry served apples while studying Genesis chapter 3, when Adam and Eve were tempted. Justin served beef jerky and celery while we were comparing the meat and vegetation offerings from Cain and Abel. Through these simple yet funny demonstrations we were able to better understand scripture by connecting it to something tangible. Everyone in the group was very open and asked intriguing, thought-provoking questions which guided our conversation and directed our thoughts.

We have learned what it means that God has created us in His own image, what man’s original purpose was, and how sin entered the world. We discovered that God made known His plan for salvation directly after man sinned in the passage where “the Lord God made garments of skin for Adam and his wife, and clothed them” (Genesis 3:21). [Apparently, Henry also has a sign on his closet door that reads the same thing!] While studying Cain and Abel’s offerings, we decided that because Abel gave his best to God, God accepted his offering. In the same way we should always give our best to God, offering to him everything we have and doing our best to serve him.

## Phuc Gin '12



**G**roup Investigating God (giG), a Bible study led by Edgar Lei and Justin Sun, meets on Thursday nights on the fifth floor lounge of 312 College Ave. The usual meeting time is 7:00 p.m., but if there is a day on which many attendees have a prelim or time conflict, giG may change its meeting time to 9:00 p.m. to accommodate the attendees' schedules. giG is very committed to giving everyone the opportunity to come to the Bible study and study the Word of God. The primary focus of giG is to bring both Christians and non-Christians from all backgrounds and stages of life together into a comfortable environment to learn about and discuss the life of Jesus Christ by going through the book of John.

Through giG, we have learned about God's loving nature and power. For example, in John 9, the blind man did not know anything about Jesus, yet Jesus still showed His love and power toward the blind man by healing his illness. We also learned about Jesus as being both human and God at the same time. In John 6, we talked about Jesus as "the bread of life that came down from heaven" (John 6:41), and we learned that if we just believe in Him alone we will "never go hungry... never be thirsty" (John 6:35). Thus, as He explained to the Samaritan woman, Jesus Christ is the living water that "[wells] up to eternal life" (John 4:14).

Through giG, we have learned about many aspects of Jesus and how each of His actions and teachings is worthy of note. giG does a very good job at noting even the tiniest details of what Jesus did in His life on earth and who Jesus is overall. Jesus Christ's representation of God's power, love, and grace can be best seen in John 3:16, "For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life."

# Praise & Worship

Tiffany Lei '13

In Praise and Worship Bible study, we discussed and learned about many aspects of giving praise and worship to God. In the first and second weeks, we learned that the most important aspect of worship comes from the heart. Without the right heart, God is displeased; God looks for the right mindset and spirit. John 4:24 states, “God is Spirit, and His worshippers must worship Him in spirit and in truth.” During the third week, we studied Ephesians 5:1-2, highlighting the importance of being imitators of God and being like Him. We focused on our adoption into God’s family when we accept Jesus into our hearts and become Christians. Since we are called to be like Christ, we are called to live a life of holy lives, set apart from the world. During the fourth week, we learned about idolatry and the possible idols in our lives and the importance of our tongue and “thanksgiving” discipline, based on Ephesians 5:3-7. I learned that anything placed above God in my life is considered an idol, which is detestable to God. Likewise, the tongue is the most lethal organ in the body. I was reminded that words make a huge impact on others – what I say can either positively support others or negatively discourage them. The “thanksgiving” discipline teaches to always have a thankful heart, regardless of the circumstances. During the fifth week, we focused on Ephesians 5:8-14. Many times it seems that what we find joy in is completely

different from what God finds joy in. I was reminded that we are to align our “likes” with what God “likes”, because God “likes” what is best for us and He loves us more than anything or anyone. We also learned about making our “light” visible to non-Christians. As Christians, we should make known our faith in Jesus Christ instead of hiding it from people for fear they may not approve – God is greater than all. During the sixth week, we learned about the meaning of wisdom and how to obtain it, based on the passage in Ephesians 5:15-17 and the story of Solomon’s God-given wisdom. Solomon asked God for wisdom and was given wisdom. Likewise, Christians are to humbly ask God for wisdom and understanding. Focusing back on the vision verses for Praise Team (Ephesians 5:19-20) in the seventh week, we learned about the value of musical diversity in worshipping God and that we worship God through music, not only because of Biblical traditions or because God commands us to worship Him, but also because it is a natural way of showing our appreciation and awe for God. During the eighth week, we focused on Ephesians 5:18, concentrating on the Holy Spirit and signs of being filled with the Holy Spirit. We learned about many different aspects and attributes of the Holy Spirit: The Holy Spirit is the Counselor who convicts and lives in us, the Encourager who judges the world, and the One who produces the Fruit of the Spirit in the hearts of Christians. We also learned that the Holy Spirit is powerful, knowledgeable, wise, just, equipping, admonishing, renewing, leading, and life-giving. This concludes the summary of the past few weeks of the PaW Bible study. :)

# *A Case of Atheism to Christianity: The Existence of God is Everywhere!*

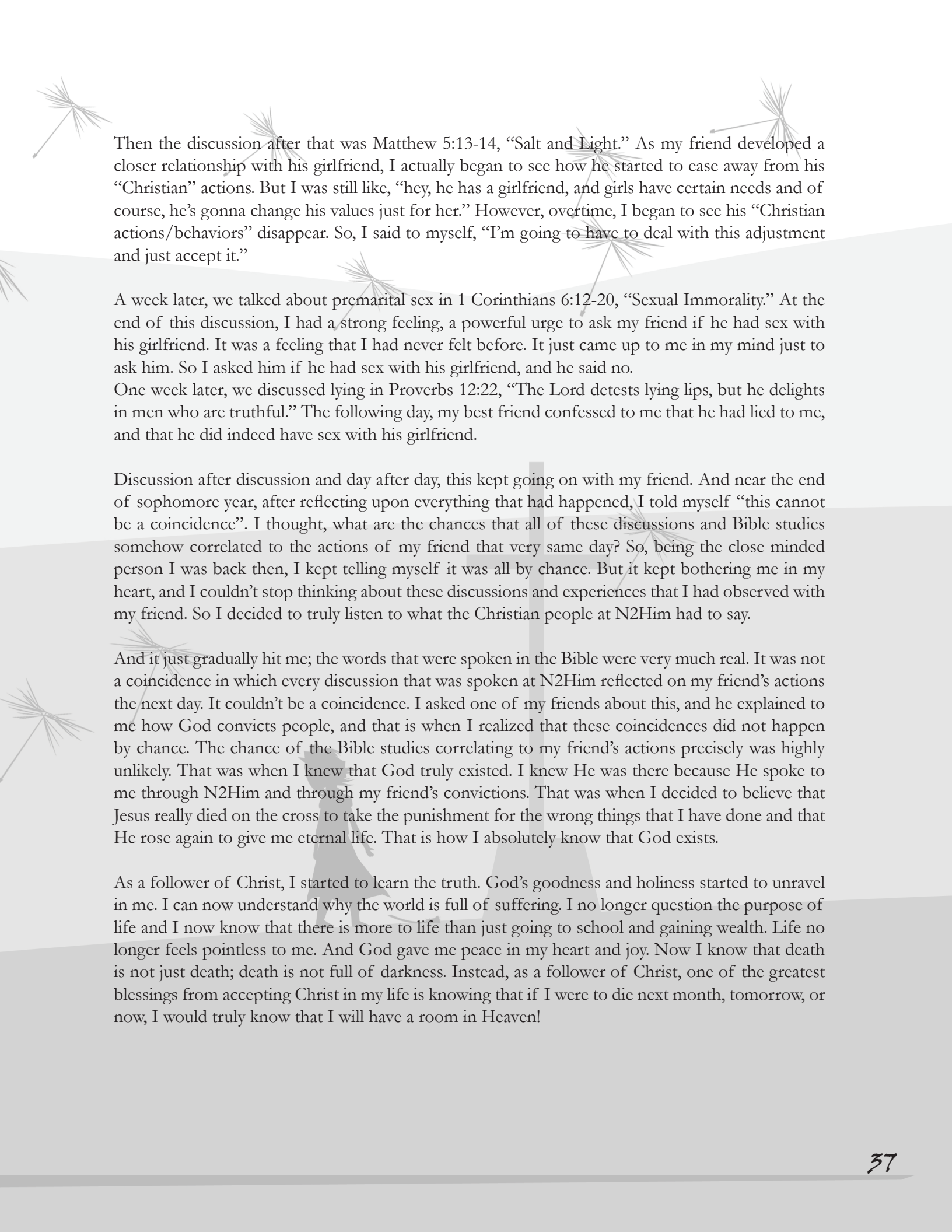
*Phuc Gin '12*

Through my entire childhood, middle school, and half of high school career, I was actually an atheist who didn't believe that God existed. The idea of God that I had in my mind was a higher being that is all good. But I didn't see that "goodness" of God anywhere. I could not believe in a God that would allow love ones to die and evil deeds to be done. So I came to the conclusion that God does not exist. So, I found no purpose in life; I believed that we were meant to live and to die. The only purpose that I saw in life itself was to be happy. I figured that if I was to die tomorrow, then I would like to die being happy. To me, death was like an eternal sleep. When it came to religion, I was always very closed minded and I didn't like people talking to me about faith. I thought it was a waste of time and that these religious people, especially Christians, were brainwashed.

Though I was an atheist, my best friend was a Christian. He tried to talk to me about Christianity, but we would always get into a heated debate. I even told him that he would never convert me into Christianity! Despite the fact that he was a Christian, I chose him as my best friend because of his character. He was full of love and compassion. He gave me the care that I didn't receive from anyone else. During our freshman year of high school, he asked me to go to church and I said no right away. But, since he was my friend and always did things for me, I felt that I should go to church with him as a favor. I wanted to learn more about Christianity before I went to church so that I wouldn't make a fool of myself in front of the members. So in order for me to learn more about Christianity, I went to my high school's Bible study, called N2Him. Although I wasn't a Christian, the members of N2Him made me feel welcome. After attending N2Him for a year and learning some aspects of Christianity, I told my friend I was ready to attend his church. But his response was, "If you were to just attend church once, I don't think it would be beneficial for you." I was quite happy that he said that because I felt that I didn't have the need to go to church. But, I still asked myself why? After all this time he wanted me to go to church with him, now he's saying it is not beneficial?

Even though I got the "Ok" to not go to church, I somehow found myself still going to N2Him during my sophomore year. I continued to go there out of curiosity and it also gave me something with which to build up my high school resume. The theme of N2Him for that year was developing a stronger bond with God. During my time there, I remember four specific discussions that made me realize that God existed and that His word is alive:

The very first discussion was 2 Corinthians 6:14-18. "Do not be yoked with unbelievers." "Do not be yoked with unbelievers" simply means that Christians should not have romantic relationships with people who are not Christians. That same week my friend actually told me he has a girlfriend that was a Wiccan, a person who practices witchcraft. I was like, "Yay you have a girlfriend! Good for you!" But I did ask myself, "Aren't Wiccans and witchcraft some kind of demonic practice or something that Christianity looks down upon?" But I just figured, hey, my friend got a girlfriend, good for him.



Then the discussion after that was Matthew 5:13-14, “Salt and Light.” As my friend developed a closer relationship with his girlfriend, I actually began to see how he started to ease away from his “Christian” actions. But I was still like, “hey, he has a girlfriend, and girls have certain needs and of course, he’s gonna change his values just for her.” However, overtime, I began to see his “Christian actions/behaviors” disappear. So, I said to myself, “I’m going to have to deal with this adjustment and just accept it.”

A week later, we talked about premarital sex in 1 Corinthians 6:12-20, “Sexual Immorality.” At the end of this discussion, I had a strong feeling, a powerful urge to ask my friend if he had sex with his girlfriend. It was a feeling that I had never felt before. It just came up to me in my mind just to ask him. So I asked him if he had sex with his girlfriend, and he said no.

One week later, we discussed lying in Proverbs 12:22, “The Lord detests lying lips, but he delights in men who are truthful.” The following day, my best friend confessed to me that he had lied to me, and that he did indeed have sex with his girlfriend.

Discussion after discussion and day after day, this kept going on with my friend. And near the end of sophomore year, after reflecting upon everything that had happened, I told myself “this cannot be a coincidence”. I thought, what are the chances that all of these discussions and Bible studies somehow correlated to the actions of my friend that very same day? So, being the close minded person I was back then, I kept telling myself it was all by chance. But it kept bothering me in my heart, and I couldn’t stop thinking about these discussions and experiences that I had observed with my friend. So I decided to truly listen to what the Christian people at N2Him had to say.

And it just gradually hit me; the words that were spoken in the Bible were very much real. It was not a coincidence in which every discussion that was spoken at N2Him reflected on my friend’s actions the next day. It couldn’t be a coincidence. I asked one of my friends about this, and he explained to me how God convicts people, and that is when I realized that these coincidences did not happen by chance. The chance of the Bible studies correlating to my friend’s actions precisely was highly unlikely. That was when I knew that God truly existed. I knew He was there because He spoke to me through N2Him and through my friend’s convictions. That was when I decided to believe that Jesus really died on the cross to take the punishment for the wrong things that I have done and that He rose again to give me eternal life. That is how I absolutely know that God exists.

As a follower of Christ, I started to learn the truth. God’s goodness and holiness started to unravel in me. I can now understand why the world is full of suffering. I no longer question the purpose of life and I now know that there is more to life than just going to school and gaining wealth. Life no longer feels pointless to me. And God gave me peace in my heart and joy. Now I know that death is not just death; death is not full of darkness. Instead, as a follower of Christ, one of the greatest blessings from accepting Christ in my life is knowing that if I were to die next month, tomorrow, or now, I would truly know that I will have a room in Heaven!

# Random (but Real) Journal Entries from Four Years in CBS



*Anonymous Alumnus*

**Intro:** Just a snippet of a CBSer's life and progression through four years of college. May the current generation of CBS keep their eyes on the Lord. 2 Chronicles 20:12 – “We do not know what to do, but our eyes are on you.”

**Nov 21**, freshman year. How great is your grace, God. Even when I have a stressful day of work, You continue to give me discipline, focus, and energy.

**Feb 10**, freshman year. Thank God for fellowship. Just got back from freshmen-junior ACE. Very fun. No cynicism, even for the stupid games we played. Thank you for making us so open God, so open to love one another, so open to receiving your grace.

**April 18**, freshman year. So I felt kind of bad today. Got bad score on chem test. But learning this from A.W. Tozer: all my temporal problems will seem so much smaller when I understand more of God.

**Sept 26**, sophomore year. I thank you Lord for giving me a wonderful prayer partner. Help me to reciprocate to him the love that he shows to me. And give me the ability to share wisdom with freshmen the way he does with me.

**Sept 30**, sophomore year. “It is better to swim than to hopelessly try to re-live those good feelings of when you were first starting to paddle.” – C. S. Lewis. This really struck me, because it's exactly what I have been doing this year – trying to be “fresh” again. It's time to grow up. I am not a freshman anymore.

**Oct 17**, junior year. I have changed so much since the summer. I had so much faith and hope and life energy then. Oh God help me to SEE like I did back then. Help me not to be blinded by the pressures of school, by the grudges I hold against people, by the desire for the approval of men, by the minor nuances of finances – help me to live life abundantly through Your grace.

**Nov. 1**, junior year. God has blessed... may I be humbled. Today God showed how He'd been working in our Bible Study. J said she wanted to become a Christian. K came in with a ton of questions. Oh God, that I may live my life the way I preach!

**April 18**, junior year. I've fallen back to sin again... I can't concentrate in prayer; I am stressed out from my work. My vision is very skewed right now – I don't see encouragement when it comes. I'm desperate for temporary escapes, temporary distractions. I run an endless cycle of self-discouragement. God I see how weak I am without You. Please bring me to a full understanding, or perhaps a full trust in who You are, and may I find peace and awe in that.

**Sept. 26**, senior year. Just had our fifth CBS of the year. I don't know why it was so hard. Lack of sleep, lack of eating lunch... Everything just seemed very routine and rushed, and I didn't really communicate well. The reality is that my heart has been far from God. He has not been the desire of my heart. Finishing work has been the desire of my heart. I've been getting things done, but falling short in terms of walking by the Spirit.

**Feb 6**, senior year. I'm learning more and more that often my efficiency is very ineffective; such as preparing that dinner for the sophomores and being all Martha-like, or trying to read all that stuff for Bible study last night. R reminded me that our vision is to know God, and thinking on that turned out to be the most effective thing I could do. In everything we do there has to be a purpose. Everything is teleological. Sometimes our work may be inconsistent with our purpose or can even hinder it. My purpose is to love God and to magnify Him. Sometimes it is unnecessary for me to do everything.





*All this is for your benefit, so that the grace that is reaching more and more people may cause thanksgiving to overflow to the glory of God. Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen. For what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.*

*-2 Corinthians 4:15-18*

