

BREAD



FALL 2010

CHINESE

BIBLE

STUDY

CORNELL

University



Letter from the Editor

Another semester has come and gone. And what do we have to show for it? Completed projects. Graded papers and prelims. A presentation here. A lab report there. But what do we have to show for when it comes to our faith? Are we like flat soda when it comes to living out our faith? Or are we like the carbonated goodness that comes from having a passion for God?

In Psalm 86, David writes:

“Teach me your way, O LORD,
and I will walk in your truth;
give me an undivided heart,
that I may fear your name.
I will praise you, O Lord my God,
with all my heart;
I will glorify your name forever.
For great is your love toward me;
you have delivered me from the
depths of the grave.”

He says that he praises God with all of his heart. He glorifies His name forever! My prayer for you is that we live passionate lives for God because of who He is and what He has done for us through His Son, Jesus Christ.

As you read through this edition of BoL, I hope that you will be encouraged by the lives of your brothers and sisters who have been living passionately for God this semester. Our passion may not necessarily manifest itself as an obvious, outward expression of excitement. It could be waking up daily and having a renewed joy because we know that we have been saved. Or having a real desire to read the Bible or caring about the people around us. Or burning the midnight oil in Phillips 318 by putting together BoL articles that point to the glory of God (thanks again BoL staff!).

Let us not be lukewarm but effective salt of the world! (Matthew 5:13) Let us not forget our First Love but remember that He is worthy of our very lives.

It has been a blessing to be able to serve you, CBS.

Always and only
Your sister in Christ,

Katarina Ng '12

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Coordinator Letter 1

Anthony Baw '11

“We, all like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all. – Isaiah 54:8”

God knew that we would try to walk our own paths before finding the right one. As this verse has encouraged me, I also hope it will encourage you. This verse has been on my mind for the past year and a half since the summer of my sophomore year. Just as God knew, freshman year I tried walking my own route, unknowingly going the wrong way. And yet God still sent his son down to Earth so that Jesus could bear all our iniquities! What undeserved mercy and grace!

Even as I write this to you, I see His grace and mercy. In the first sermon we listened to by Pastor John Piper, he said “the world will go haywire if it goes against what it is designed for.” We are designed to be in Christ and yet many times we try to be of the world. You wonder, why do I feel so unsatisfied or just internally in chaos? It is because we are trying to be in two things at once. You are essentially tearing your soul apart as you try to be in Christ and also try to be of this world. Earlier today, I was hungry. It was not a physical hunger because I already ate a lot. Drinking water did not help. TV shows did not either. It was not until I picked up and read my Bible that the hunger went away.

Do not forget that your soul needs to eat too! For man does not live on bread alone (Matt 4:4b). The vision for Chinese Bible Study this year is to live a gospel-centered life and be transformed by the Holy Spirit. Every day we should be renewed by the foundational mercy of God, being the gospel, so that we may build upon the best possible foundation. Also, we should strive to continually understand more and more of what this gospel really is. By understanding the gospel, we hope to take that step forward in allowing the Holy Spirit to intercede into our lives and to transform us by the renewing of our minds so that the way we think will affect the way we act. We studied the first eleven chapters briefly to build up to Romans 12:1-2, our theme verse. In light of all that was said in the first eleven chapters, we are to respond to God by offering our bodies to Him, physically, mentally, spiritually so that we may be holy and pleasing, just as God intended us to be. In allowing the Holy Spirit to come into our lives and change us, we will be more in tune with what God truly wants us to do; we will be molded into the image He intended us to be. So no longer conform to this world! Do not be molded by society, media, and whatnot but allow the Creator to mold you into the beautiful creation that is underneath all the excess “stuff.” I hope that as we continue to study Romans, it will strike, change, and mold your hearts into the likeness of Christ. Come every Friday night with an expectation to change! However, don't forget that church is important as well, if not more so.

As has been stressed, prayer is so important. Not only is it a time to talk to God but it is also a time to listen to Him. Allow the Holy Spirit to lead you in prayer because It knows what to pray for. When you have the desire to pray, more for such and such or so and so, do it then and there (unless you are driving of course). What we have with God is a relationship. We need to talk to Him. “Abba Father, I belong to you.” This is the mentality we should have when we pray. He is our Father and we are His adopted children through Christ Jesus.

Just as prayer is important, so is reading His Word. It is one of the main ways God speaks to us for it is living. The words in the Bible have power and when you are reading it, God is speaking to you. We need our daily bread otherwise our souls starve. As I had said before, only God can satisfy your hunger. Sometimes you feel this hunger sensation and it can only be satisfied by reading His Word. The Bible is one of the most important parts of a Christian's life. Through reading the Bible, you begin to better understand who your Father is. You gain a wealth of knowledge and understanding from the unchanging Bible. Have you ever stopped and wondered how this book which is 2000 years old is still applicable to your life and yet has never needed to be changed at all throughout history? This is the amazing work of God!

By reading, studying, memorizing, meditating on the Bible and praying, you will grow in your personal walk with God. Through the growth, your time of fellowship and accountability will grow stronger. You will begin to naturally do the things God intends for you to do. I pray that you will grow stronger and stronger in your personal walk and devotion to God and then you will be able to serve others. Hope you have had a great semester!

May we all be in Christ alone!

Coordinator Letter 2

Rachel Pang '11

As I start off writing this coordinator letter, I am going to be honest that I am struggling with what to write. I have been thinking about this letter for a while and been praying that God would give me the words to say. As the latest possible deadline is approaching for this letter, I find myself still, with no words to say and not even an outline (sounds like I am writing an essay!). But one thing I do know is that it is okay if I do not end up writing an encouraging letter or use good English and proper grammar, because this letter is not for me to seek self-glory. I do continue to pray that God would lead me through as I finish writing the rest of this letter.

The vision for CBS this year is to live a gospel-centered life and be transformed by the Spirit. As I pondered upon these past few months, this semester surely has been one filled with busyness from school, job searching, CBS and work. It is also one that I found myself spiritually struggling the most. In thinking about many aspects of my life, I realized I have been living a life as if I am living in the world and not in Christ. I struggled with sin, attitudes that are un-loving, temptations and idols that consumed my mind. I struggled to believe in my heart the truth that I knew in my head. I struggled with being able to find joy and give thanks to God in all circumstances. I knew that it is by God's grace that He has revealed these sins to me, but often times, I found myself dwelling on my own sins and focusing so inwardly, feeling ashamed, guilty and despaired, rather than remembering the act of love that was demonstrated on the cross through Christ Jesus.

A thousand times I've failed

Still your mercy remains

And should I stumble again

Still I'm caught in your grace (From The Inside Out)

"It is good for us to look at self and how loathsome it is, but with one look at self, we must take ten looks at Christ." -E.L. Langston. A sister had shared this with me a while ago, but it wasn't until recently that she reminded me again and I finally understood what it meant. I know that there is nothing I can do to redeem my own transgressions. I can only look towards Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, whom we should fix our eyes on, where our hope and joy are laid. It is such a comfort to know "what great sinners we are but what an even greater Savior we have!!"

When Satan tempts me to despair

And tells me of the guilt within,

Upward I look and see Him there

Who made an end to all my sin (Before The Throne of God Above)

How much more should we be grateful of this Gospel and saving grace that we freely received from the sinless Lamb of God? Let us put on the armor of God and stand firm on Christ the solid rock, as we face spiritual battles in our daily lives. It is easy for us to forget His love and His faithfulness in times when we are discouraged. It is easy for us to just want to take control in every single aspect of our own lives. Let us not forget His love, and faithfulness. Let's pray that we will walk by faith daily and take one step at a time as we learn how to live a gospel-centered life. May our hearts pant for the living God, for the spirit to change and transform us from the inside out, so that Christ may be glorified.

"Let any man turn to God in earnest, let him begin to exercise himself unto godliness, let him seek to develop his powers of spiritual receptivity by trust and obedience and humility, and the result will exceed anything he may have hoped in his leaner and weaker days."

- A.W. Tozer's "The Pursuit of God"

To God be the glory.

Discipleship Ministry

Mark Dong '12 & Rachel Har '12

As the semester draws to a close, sometimes we look back to the beginning and wonder: what have we accomplished in our time here? Back in August, we spent much time in planning for discipleship ministry. Will we send out emails? Will we have memory verses? Are we going to pair up groups of prayer partners? Will we have a discipleship workshop? Some of these ideas came to fruition, others were dropped, and still others were pushed back. A lot of stress also accompanied the journey—how many freshmen will actually show up? What if the prayer partnerships end up failing? And many times we asked, did we make the right decision?

Throughout the rest of the semester, a lot of prayer helped us through many of these problems. We've seen a much of God's grace reach out to the fellowship and a lot of potential, setting us up for many spiritual growth, learning, and discipleship opportunities. The prayer partnerships have served as ways for our fellowship to grow—in receiving the experiences of older brothers and sisters for younger prayer partners, and in learning how to pass on the experiences we have already received. As our current partnerships unfold, we have already seen increase in both areas and therefore have many things to be thankful for. Pray continually for these relationships, that as we all grow closer together as believers, we can also grow towards the LORD who blesses and sustains us.

Remembering the vision that first manifested in the summer, we have a forward direction continuing onwards into the new semester and the new year. Become more like Christ in every way—in love to our brothers and sisters in Christ, in kindness to unbelievers, in service to those around us, and in wisdom to guide the needy— this is the goal of every disciple.

“I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the fellowship of sharing in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, and so, somehow, to attain to the resurrection from the dead.” Philippians 3:10-11

Your servants in Discipleship.

Evangelism Ministry

Timothy Shin '12 & Jamie Tsai '12

Our vision for CBS this year is not especially different or novel, but we believe it is founded firmly on the Word of God and is just as firmly relevant in our lives. We desire not only as EV Ministry Coordinators but also as a fellow brother and sister that EV Ministry would cultivate a heart for evangelism in the Christians of this fellowship: a heart joyful in knowing God and making Him known, a heart of obedience to God's commands, a heart naturally overflowing in the love and grace shown to us by God. Cultivating this heart is critical in growing our faith (Philemon 6) and in sharing our faith. So the natural question is how do we go about fulfilling these desires?

We started off the year working with Inreach ministry handing out ice pops and quartercards on campus, inviting people to come to CBS and making them aware of churches in Ithaca. Throughout the course of the next couple months, EV ministry periodically baked sweets and handed them out in Duffield along with quartercards inviting people to come to CBS. It was a good way showing the presence of Christian fellowships and leaving a good impression of Christianity in people's minds, as people were pleasantly surprised by our generosity. In October, Tim Fan, a pastor from New Jersey, gave an evangelistic message on the Search for Transcendence. Several CBSers invited their friends to come, and the First Ithaca Chinese Christian Church/CBS followed up on those people who expressed interest.

This year we also participated in Into the Streets, an annual day of volunteer service in the Ithaca community. Why would we, as a Christian fellowship, be interested in being active in the local community if we are not directly preaching the Gospel? One answer is that we are called to be salt and light in this world (Matthew 5:13-16), not only preaching the Gospel directly with our words but also by showing it in the way we choose to live, in whatever community we are in. We therefore desire to grow CBS's larger community perspective and consciousness, and believe that ITS and similar outreach initiatives are worthwhile steps in accomplishing this.

In early November we had our first EV ministry meeting, where we invited those who were interested to come and discuss outreach in terms of CBS: How do we personally struggle with outreach in our own lives? How can we keep each other accountable through praying together for non-Christian friends? How can we channel CBS's greater heart for evangelism this year to doing the things God wants us to do?

We feel that CBS's heart for outreach has grown a lot these past few years and we desire to channel this energy in ways that build up our unity as a fellowship, our community consciousness, and most importantly, glorify God and build up His Kingdom. The EV Ministry meeting was one manifestation of this desire, and our hope is that future meetings will allow us to touch base with members of the fellowship and the desires they have for CBS and EV Ministry.

These wonderful things are not possible solely with man; indeed even the conception of these ideas could only be from God. Thus, this calls for much prayer. As humble servants we ask for prayer over this ministry, over CBS and the Christian body as a whole, and over this campus. Nothing can be built without God; without Him nothing can stand on its own. Having a heart for evangelism and sharing the Gospel is an amazing thing that we ought to seek after; but the work of changing hearts is God's: so join with us in prayer, as we seek to glorify His name.

InReach Ministry

Thomas Tran '11 & Sandra Quah '12

Praise God! He has continually blessed the fellowship in so many ways, including the addition of the freshman class. In this past semester, the InReach ministry has been greatly encouraged by the freshmen who have been actively seeking God in their own personal lives. As they adjust to their new home at Cornell, they have reminded us of how constant and unchanging our God is despite the changes we face in our lives. These changes can either bring us closer to Him or farther from Him, and we have been encouraged to see how the freshmen have drawn closer to God even as they adapt to the world of Cornell.

There are many times when we encounter changes that bring us farther away from the God we want to serve. Whether they pertain to our studies, jobs, or even friends and family, these changes can remove God from being the cornerstone of our lives and distract us from loving and serving Him. We often replace God with idols that lead us away from His ultimate command for us:

“My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one’s life for one’s friends.” – John 15:12-13

So as we thought about InReach and what God has called us to do on this earth, we meditated on ways in which we can flee from our sin in order to ultimately love one another as God has loved us.

“You, my brothers and sisters, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the flesh; rather, serve one another humbly in love.” – Galatians 5:13

In this verse, Paul reminds us that the freedom we have in living our lives on earth should be rooted in the Cross and that we are not to indulge in our earthly and sinful desires because we are no longer slaves to sin. In the InReach meetings, we have seen how sin hurts God before it hurts any of us. As we see the sin in our lives, we are reminded that God hates sin and wants us to flee from the fleshly desires that keep us from turning to Him. However, this fleeing is not an easy task, as we have learned this semester. Even with prayer and accountability, we all fall short of His glory. It’s only through our faith in Christ Jesus that we have the right to pursue a relationship with God and to have hope in our God who saves us despite our own shortcomings.

Therefore, as changes permeate our lives and as we grow in fellowship this year, we encourage every brother and sister to think about how we, as believers in Christ Jesus, can become more aware of, fight against, and ultimately put an end to our sins. We pray that with the hope and strength we have in Christ Jesus, we can all take to heart the command given to us: to serve one another humbly in love, understanding that the ability to love does not come from us, but from the One who demonstrated ultimate love by giving up His heavenly throne and humbling Himself as a servant to die upon a cross.

Praise Ministry

Nathan Kwong '12 & Michael Hwang '12

“I will exalt you, my God the King; I will praise your name forever and ever. Every day I will praise you and extol your name forever and ever. Great is the LORD and most worthy of praise; his greatness no one can fathom.” -Psalm 145:1-3

Everyone praises something, whether it is our family, our success, or our strikingly handsome ministry partner. The problem is that the things we praise are all completely unworthy of our praise. The only thing in the entire universe that is worthy is God. To praise the creation and not the Creator is to steal from God what he deserves. As our vision states, “Great is the Lord and most worthy of praise; His greatness no one can fathom.” Regardless of our circumstances and feelings, God always deserves our praise.

Many times when we sing praises to God, we don't understand the meaning of the lyrics. We sing of God's beauty and faithfulness, but praise is much more than the physical action of singing. Praise stems not just from knowledge of God, but from a heartfelt understanding of His nature and how it impacts us. Throughout this semester, we explored different characteristics of God to help us understand why exactly God is worthy of our praise. Only when we understand this can our praise reach a deeper and more intimate level.

The first and possibly most important reason why God is worthy of praise is the cross. Without Jesus Christ, it would be impossible for us to even enter a relationship with God. Only through Christ's death are we able to know God and understand who He is (John 17:3). We were once “dead in our transgressions,” unable to save ourselves (Ephesians 2:5). However, God's great love for us, as seen through the death of Jesus Christ, has saved us from the bondage of sin, and we are now able to live a new life as His children - unashamed and singing praises to His name. Deepening our understanding of the grace that God has shown us upon the cross serves as a foundation upon which we build our praise.

God's worthiness stems from more than just the cross. God's attributes are all worthy of our praise, and our hope is that, by using the Bible to truly understand some of these attributes, such as faithfulness, holiness, and nearness, we can further our praise of God. In the end, no matter how hard we try to understand just exactly why God is worthy of our praise, it is impossible to truly wrap our minds around it. Simply put, God is worthy of our praise because He just is. It is not only because He is holy or because He is beautiful. Every part of God, every single aspect, is worthy of our praise. To define and understand them all would take an eternity. By understanding more of who God is, however, we can bring our praise of God while we are still on this earth to a deeper level.

Prayer Ministry

Justin Deng '12 & Ann Yang '11

Whether spending a cold Monday evening trekking across campus to North or a gloomy Thursday evening on the top floor of Willard Straight Hall, we have been blessed as leaders to have weekly prayer meetings. We want to thank those of you who have committed yourselves to attending prayer meetings because it has truly been rewarding to partner with you in sharing praises, burdens and requests with our God. As awesome as it has been to share our own prayer requests, it has been just as amazing to hear your humble requests so willingly shared. For those of you who are unfamiliar with the style of CBS prayer meetings, we typically open with sharing and then close with prayer in groups of 3-5 people. These meetings not only produce a sense of fellowship, but are also gentle encouragements to turn to God to draw strength from Him. We have also been starting a new routine in prayer meetings. Being servants of the gospel means seeing the greater picture of God's will for this world. God is not just a God who reigns over our individual lives; God is also the God of this entire world – including places like North Korea, Haiti and India. Therefore, we desire people to be more open-minded and to see prayer as an effective and powerful tool in seeing God work in all things. We will continue bringing up issues that are seen on this campus and on the news during prayer meetings to encourage people to pray with purpose.

Ask and you will receive, and your joy will be complete. – John 16:24b

Another aspect of our ministry can be seen through the prayer slides that we incorporate into weekly praise sets. While we recognize that our prayer prompts may not necessarily be tailored to the needs of the entire fellowship, we do hope that you will be able to use them to pray with submission and humility. These prompts are tied closely with the recognition that we are not self-sufficient. A richer understanding of prayer opens our eyes to see how we can earnestly seek our omnipotent, omniscient and all-loving God so that we might be able to faithfully trust and obey Him through godly wisdom.

At the start of the year, our vision was to see the fellowship develop a burden for prayer. This desire has not changed. The privilege to serve as prayer coordinators has been not only spiritually challenging and but also an endless revelation of God's power. We accepted our positions as prayer coordinators not because we thought we were superior in our knowledge of what prayer is meant to be like. Instead, we began our leadership roles praying for humility, inviting God to first grow our own prayer lives so that we could impart our prayerfulness to others in the fellowship. As Christians, we know how important prayer ought to be, but there is often still a gulf between what it ought to be and what it is. It is our continuing hope that you join us in becoming more disciplined in prayer – not through a sense of duty as so frequently occurs, but out of trust in God's power to move and change people. We want your prayer lives to be filled with purpose, knowing that we lift our praises and burdens to a living God who hears us. We encourage people to sacrifice time for prayer and to feel a sense of purpose and urgency at prayer meetings. Ultimately, we hope the fellowship will come to wholeheartedly understand that prayer is precious, intimate time that we spend with the God who loves us.

For you did not receive a spirit that makes you a slave again to fear, but you received the Spirit of sonship. And by him we cry, "Abba, Father." – Romans 8:15

Agatha Piu

LA county, California
Chemical Engineering/Undecided
Interviewer: Jamie Tsai '12

I was really excited to get to interview Agatha! She is one of the first freshmen that I have talked to this semester. I have the privilege of getting to see her and talk to her every time she comes over to Eddygate 3C to meet with her prayer partner Becky. We met right after CBS ended. I probably should have planned better, since worship team was pretty loud during our interview.

Why did you decide to come to Cornell?

It has a good engineering program, and is a good school. It also gave me good financial aid.

What was your first impression of Cornell? Of CBS?

Cornell is different from home; it's not city-like, but more nature-y. CBS reminded me of my fellowship at home because it's Chinese, but also because of the structure of CBS. My fellowship also had ministry teams—the same ones.

If you had to choose an animal to follow you around for the rest of your life, what would it be and why?

It can't be too big; then it can't go into buildings; it can't be too small or it might get killed. I would choose a dog because if I become blind, it can be a guide dog. If people try to attack me, I can send my dog after them. They're also cute.

What do you hope to accomplish by the end of your time at Cornell?

Besides getting a degree... successfully play guitar.

What do you think is the best part about being a freshman?

Free bus passes, meeting new people, starting a new beginning.

It was interesting to see Agatha's blank responses for all of the classes. She couldn't think of anything to generalize the classes, and nothing really popped up. Sometimes I am prematurely opinionated or say things I don't really think, but I can tell that Agatha doesn't generalize/stereotype as much and wishes for her associations to be genuinely spontaneous rather than fabricated for the sake of having an association. Although I still don't know Agatha very well, I truly

Word Associations

Duffield: Engineers

CALS: Aggies

Senior Class: Old

Float: Parade

Junior Class: [couldn't think of anything]

Roll: Hill

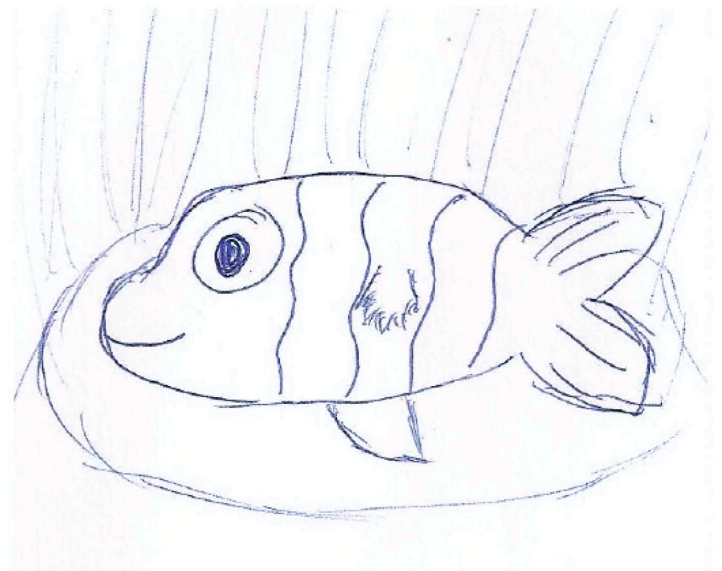
Sophomore Class:

Quintessential: dictionary

Bubbles: Tea

Freshman Class:

enjoy her honesty and simplicity in the interview and look forward to getting to know her more and seeing her grow in Christ.



Nemo in his anemone

Ailin Lu

Barrington, Rhode Island
Human Biology, Health and Society
Interviewer: Ann Yang '11

In the tucked away Weil Hall located on the outskirts of the Ag Quad, I sat down in Synapsis Café with Ailin for lunch on a Wednesday afternoon. I considered this interview as an excuse to finally get to know this freshman beyond our short-lived, 2-minute conversations that usually occur somewhere near the printer station on the first floor of Mann Library.

Why did you decide to come to Cornell?

“I visited all the colleges that accepted me, and I liked Cornell the best.” And of course, it helps that she also visited as a pre-frosh on a day when the sun was out at Cornell.

What was your first impression of Cornell? Of CBS?

Cornell: “Cornell is really nice and outdoorsy.” She nodded, eyes twinkling, when I asked her if she enjoys the outdoors. However, she added that she cannot stand the cold, which we all know Ithaca will thoroughly test her with as the inevitable winter season approaches us! At least she grew up in the Northeast, and won't be in for too much of a surprise.
CBS: [laugh] “It was sort of awkward.” She then genuinely added, “but the people were also really nice and friendly.”

If you had to choose an animal to follow you around for the rest of your life, what would it be and why?

“Hmm. I've never thought about it that way before.” After thinking carefully, she thoughtfully said, “Well, my first instinct would be to pick a tiger. It would have to be one that is very loyal and friendly and domesticated, but also very intimidating to others.”

What do you hope to accomplish by the end of your time at Cornell?

“I eventually want to become very involved in the community. I also hope to get to know my professors.” As a first semester freshman, she is still adjusting to the lifestyle and environment of college students. I'm excited to see her progress as she makes this transition and becomes more involved with the best that college has to offer her for the next 3.5 years.

What do you think is the best part about being a freshman?

“The best part is being able to make mistakes.”

Our lunches were supplemented with free strawberry smoothie samples being offered at Synapsis that day. With still more time to waste before our afternoon classes, we spent the remainder of our time together sharing additional tidbits of our lives. Ailin is a girl with wit and humor, is easy to communicate with, and has a personality that I would care to learn more about! From her inclination for art (take

Word Associations

Duffield: Hall

CALS: Agriculture

Senior Class: Small

Float: milkshake

Junior Class: ...

Roll: A hill

Sophomore Class: I don't think I know them too well

Quintessential: Jefferson (Thomas)

Bubbles: Fairies

Freshmen Class: GREAT!

a sneak peek at her movie scene drawing!) to the enjoyable bike rides she takes when she's back at home in Rhode Island, she seems like an all-around fun and interesting person.



Closing scene of “Howl's Moving Castle”
Howl: “Sophie, your hair is silver like starlight.”

Alex Ngai

Irvine, California
Biological Engineering
Interviewer: David Bu '12

I scheduled an appointment with Alex at 1:30 on Friday. While I was waiting in an alcove, Justin Deng suddenly appeared and started calling me a traitor. I was confused until he said that I stole his prayer partner. He was supposed to meet with Alex at around that time but instead, Alex was meeting me. While I was laughing at Justin, I mean the situation, Alex arrived.

Why did you decide to come to Cornell?

Because I got accepted into Cornell and rejected from MIT.

What was your first impression of Cornell?

Campus was beautiful, a lot of people.

Of CBS?

A lot of Chinese people.

If you had to choose an animal to follow you around for the rest of your life, what would it be and why?

A dragon, because I can ride it. (More realistic) Pikachu. (Even more realistic) A raccoon, because they have opposable thumbs so I can train it to do homework.

What do you hope to accomplish by the end of your time at Cornell?

Get a degree, pass my classes. I want to learn.

What do you think is the best part about being a freshman?

Better than being a sophomore.

Alex is a very brief and concise person. It was an interesting experience learning about him. I learned that he is a very good painter and has a portfolio of his paintings on a website.

Word Associations

Duffield: Hall

CALS: Fake bio engineering

Senior Class: Freshmen class

Float: Ice cream

Junior Class: Sophomore class

Roll: Spider

Sophomore Class: Junior class

Quintessential: What is that?

Bubbles: Bubble beam

Freshmen Class: Senior class



I have to study math, and I like Pokemon.
Plus, it shows my Asian-ness.

Alicia Young

Plano, Texas
Major Undecided
Interviewer: Van-Kim Bui '11

Alicia had a bunch of prelims, so we waited until her prelims were over to eat dinner before CBS on West Campus. Lo and behold all the other freshmen were there too! I was excited to spend some time with Alicia and get to know her better. I also had an extra incentive because she's from Texas, and we could talk about how much we miss it!

Why did you decide to come to Cornell?

It was convenient. My dad is close (Rochester), and it's a good school.

What was your first impression of Cornell? Of CBS?

Cornell- It's really pretty but cold.

CBS- It's a lot like my church at home. Everyone was really welcoming.

[When prompted how she found out about CBS] Well I saw the chalking but I didn't want to go because I didn't know anyone. But I had a friend who knew Deborah's brother-in-law *[go Cliff!]* and so they connected us.

If you had to choose an animal to follow you around for the rest of your life, what would it be and why?

Polar bears- because that's my favorite animal, even if it's scary for others. *[Would you really want a polar bear following you around all the time?]* Maybe a baby polar bear.

What do you hope to accomplish by the end of your time at Cornell?

To know what I want to do with my life.

[Right now, what do you want to do with your life?] Maybe go to grad school.

What do you think is the best part about being a freshman?

Not sure...there are more freshman programs.

[Do you not like being a freshman?] Well freshmen have to start all over. When you're a senior in high school, you know where you're going and what you're doing. When you're a freshman, you have to figure everything out again.

The interview was a bit rushed because we were eating and conscious of getting to CBS on time, but it was great getting to know more about Alicia. She's tall and sweet, and very easy-going. Hopefully we'll be able to meet up more during the year and maybe even during winter break for a CBS Texas get-together! I hope that God continues to grow her to be a beautiful young woman pursuing Him and that He would make His will for her clear in the next four years.

Word Associations

Duffield: Engineering

CALS: Moo-ing! *[Oops! C-A-L-S not cows]* oh... still cows

Senior Class: Graduating *[DON'T RUSH US!]*

Float: Sink

Junior Class: Mature *[Really?]* I don't know many juniors...okay old but that makes you older... okay off campus

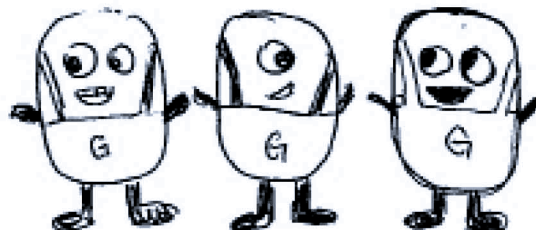
Roll: Slope

Sophomore Class: West campus

Quintessential: Asian

Bubbles: Soap

Freshmen Class: New



These are the minions from Despicable Me. The minions are really cute :)

Byron Cheung

Pasadena, California
Biological Engineering
Interviewer: Elbert Chang '11

Does Byron have enough BRBs to buy a meal? The question loomed over our heads, adding to the tension that accompanies Cornell. With only \$8 on hand, Byron determines which sandwich will satisfy his hunger and stay within his price range. The struggle one faces to feed himself. What happens? Find out after we learn more about Byron!

Why did you decide to come to Cornell?

For Byron, Cornell seemed like the best choice for his intended career as a medical researcher.

What was your first impression of Cornell? Of CBS?

This is his first impression of Cornell: "It's nice." Byron was also amazed at the fact that Cornell is much larger than his high school. Unfortunately, that makes walking around campus a drag. As for CBS, Byron saw how much of a good environment it would be for his spiritual growth.

If you had to choose an animal to follow you around for the rest of your life, what would it be and why?

As a fellow dog lover, Byron would want a dog—specifically a Husky. They are simply awesome and he likes them. So why not? =)

What do you hope to accomplish by the end of your time at Cornell?

Two worthy goals: Byron would like to not fail a class and hopefully get enough sleep during these next few years. I hope you the best in your venture (especially in the latter).

What do you think is the best part about being a freshman?

The best part of freshman year. "Free bus passes." Byron "can't imagine paying \$1.50 for a bus ride," especially when going to Riley-Robb. Agreed!

That's the Byron in a nutshell. Take the time to get to know him whenever you see him! And by the way, he did have enough to pay for a sandwich. As for being full, I didn't have time to ask. I should hope so.

Word Associations

Duffield: Grand

CALS: My school, but not my school

Senior Class: Yay!!!

Float: Root Beer

Junior Class: Eddygate

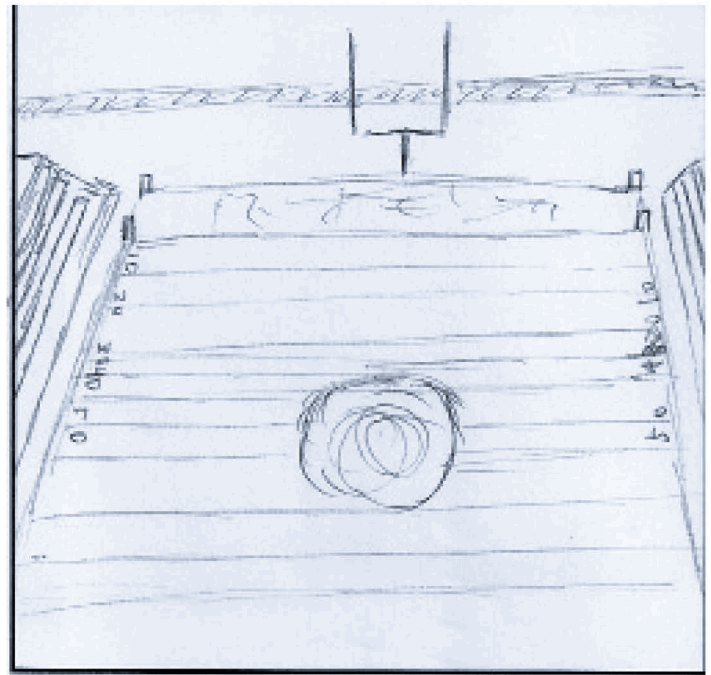
Roll: Call

Sophomore Class: ?

Quintessential: Sleep

Bubbles: Awesome

Freshmen Class: Too big



Ratliff Stadium from Friday Night Lights

Christy Pon

Mobile, Alabama
Engineer/Pre-med
Interviewer: Becky Lee '12

“Alabama?” I couldn’t help but ask, “what are you doing here?” Christy just smiles and explains to me her journey to Cornell. This smile I would continue to see for the next half-an-hour or so in Duffield Atrium on that chilly Sunday evening. This was our second appointment that weekend because I had to bail out on her the first time. She was very understanding and thankfully, without further interruption, our interview went something like this:

Why did you decide to come to Cornell?

I was the only person in my school to go to Cornell and was seeking a good education, challenge, and life out of Alabama.

What was your first impression of Cornell? Of CBS?

Cornell is in the middle of nowhere, slopey, cold and wet. CBS had a lot of Chinese people.

If you had to choose an animal to follow you around for the rest of your life, what would it be and why?

A sponge. A sponge is simple. Since this animal is going to follow me for a life time, which is a really long time, it will annoy me the least.

What do you hope to accomplish by the end of your time at Cornell?

I want to know my career goal, know what to do for the next ten years, and understand how to adapt to a competitive environment or surrounding. Last but not least, it would be a plus to adapt to the cold weather.

What do you think is the best part about being a freshman?

I don’t have to decide on a major just yet.

[Okay then, we are all done here. Do you need to take a bus back up North?] To my surprise, she said she would accompany me back to Eddygate. Her stop was at 2E for Bible study. This gave me a little more time to chit chat and the privilege of escorting a freshman through the dangerous streets of colleegetown. We parted at the stairwell. She went on her way to learn more about God as I went back to my cozy apartment.

Word Associations

Duffield: Squarish

CALS: Farmers [BECKY COUGHS INDIGNANTLY]

Senior Class: They don’t care about school

Float: Frog

Junior Class: Nice people

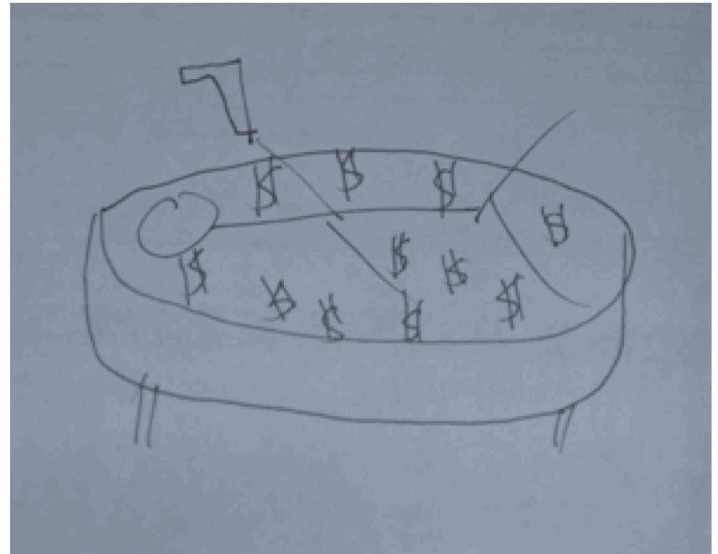
Roll: Tide (Alabama football team cheer
“Roll!” “Tide!”)

Sophomore Class: really distant.

Quintessential: What is that?

Bubbles: Tea

Freshmen Class: Huge



The scene in Slumdog Millionaire where Jamal’s brother, Salim, dies in the bathtub surrounded by money.

Edwin Chui

Nairobi, Kenya
Major Undecided
Interviewer: Thomas Tran '11

EDWIN CHUI. Easy to talk to. Diligent in studies. Willing to learn all that he can! Interested in business. Not ready for snow. Consumed by God. Hoping for a good time at Cornell. Undecided major. I think that's all?

Edwin is quite the guy to be around! I enjoyed having the opportunity to get to know him better through the BoL interview and I encourage you all to take time to know this fellow from Kenya!

Why did you decide to come to Cornell?

I decided to come to Cornell because I wanted to be the first person from my group of friends who came to this university. I have a few friends who went to other Ivy League schools, but not at Cornell.

What was your first impression of Cornell? Of CBS?

My first impression of Cornell was that it was overwhelming. It was originally really hard to interact with people with different backgrounds, so I was overwhelmed with how I would be able to connect with people. Also, the campus was very big, which made it overwhelming as well. My first impression of CBS was that it is huge.

If you had to choose an animal to follow you around for the rest of your life, what would it be and why?

[Ah! All ye pre-vet students, be warned! Shocking news is about to come..]

I don't like animals.

However, if I were to have an inanimate object follow me, I would like a soccer ball because I like soccer!

What do you hope to accomplish by the end of your time at Cornell?

I hope to perform well and get good grades. By the time I finish Cornell, I would like more definition and direction in careers. Also, I would like to grow socially – to learn how to interact with all kinds of people from different backgrounds.

What do you think is the best part about being a freshman?

As a freshman, I enjoy going to some of my classes and going to the movies with friends.

Word Associations

Duffield: Engineering

CALS: AEM

Senior Class: Not sure

Float: Swim class

Junior Class: Justin [Nice]

Roll: Prelims [When he has a lot of prelims, he feels like he is rolling down? I think.]

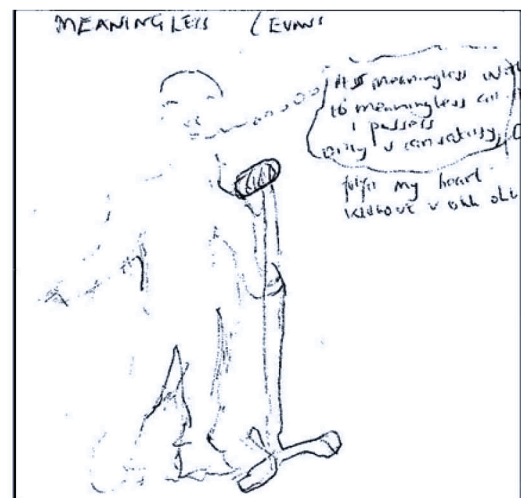
Sophomore Class: Abnormally good [Really nice people!]

Quintessential: Spiritual life

Bubbles: Bubble tea

Freshmen Class: Not sure

Edwin is a fairly chill guy to hang around. He works really hard in his studies, so if you're ever headed to a library, feel free to give him a call!



Music Clip of "Meaningless" by Anthony Evans.

Grace Leu

San Ramon, California
Human Biology, Health & Society
Interviewer: Jacqueline Liu '12

“How does Friday night after CBS sound? If not, then we can do Saturday. But if I’m not home Saturday, we can do Sunday after Tab?” Friday didn’t work, nor did Saturday, nor did Sunday. “I’m pretty free this week, so we can meet up anytime... just give me a call.” Another week passed; another fail. But finally, just three days before the deadline, I managed to catch a rather tired Grace after a long praise ACE, throw her down in a chair and begin my interrogation.

Why did you decide to come to Cornell?

Oh gosh, I actually wasn’t planning on coming to Cornell at all; I just applied because the college was very good. It ended up being a choice between Northwestern and Cornell, both of which were very good. But I’d visited Cornell with my parents before and got in contact (through my cousin) with Kathleen (while the person I knew at Northwestern never contacted me). Kathleen talked to me and introduced me to CBS here, so I decided to come to Cornell.

What was your first impression of Cornell?

So pretty! It’s really pretty (insert Grace laugh). And so big! I thought I had to use the map for the rest of my life here. of CBS?

Everyone is so nice—I had lunch with CBS people every day... Everyone is so nice! [wait... you said that already]. And a lot of Chinese people. And one Korean! [Tim Shin...err you forgot Eugene...]. At first I thought he was Chinese, but then he said he wasn’t, so then I was confused...

If you had to choose an animal to follow you around for the rest of your life, what would it be and why?

Golden retriever doggies because they’re so cute and cuddly just imagining them! And I have this friend... she kind of looks like a golden retriever to me, it’s kind of the way she walks, you know how golden retrievers walk? Um, you’re putting that in? [Yes.]

What do you hope to accomplish by the end of your time at Cornell?

Hmm... Well, there’s quite a lot. I hope I’ll be a lot closer to God than I am now. And that I’ll know how to play squash and racquetball. I hope I’ll have done research/field work/volunteer work in another country. And I guess I just hope I’ll be happy with how I spent my time here at Cornell. I could give you a whole list, but I think that would take up several pages.

What do you think is the best part about being a freshman?

Everyone is so nice to you! They ask you out for lunch—I mean, who asks the sophomores out for lunch? Haha, don’t put that in! [Don’t worry, I won’t.] And you’re free to be annoying and make mistakes, and people won’t be mad because you’re a freshman. Or if they do get mad, it’s not too bad because they’ll forgive you because you’re a freshman. The free stuff we got during Orientation Week was also good.

Word Associations

Duffield: CBS

CALS: Grass

Senior Class: Really cool!

Float: Root beer

Junior Class: Really cool! (I love you Jackie! and Sandra!)

Roll: Down the hill?

Sophomore Class: Really cool! [Something different please?] Funny? Crazy? Different?

Quintessential: What?

Bubbles: Tea

Freshman Class: We’re the best!

I found that the best way to catch a Grace Leu is to ask for a hug. Generous with both her hugs and her laughs, Grace is a friendly, warm, and kind sister in Christ. I am excited to see how God continues to work in and change her through these next few years. And next time you need a hug (girls), go to Grace, and if you want a laugh (at her or with her, I don’t think it matters), strike up a conversation. Your heart will be warmed!



Up! (The thing in the corner is that waterfall.)
And I’m in the cloud because I like clouds.

Harry He

Shanghai, China
Major Undecided
Interviewer: Tim Hu '13

I glanced around nervously as I waited for the person I had been assigned to interview. I had heard of the fearsome Harry He only in passing and from afar in CBS but never had I had the opportunity to encounter the legendary man. I mentally prepared myself in case his aura would blow me away, but clearly for my sake he had suppressed his energy levels. I approached him in Willard Straight and saw him studying ancient Chinese lore. I tried as best I could to offer him the little information I had about the ancient poems. Afterwards we signaled to each other that it would be better to discuss our plans in the basement, so after descending into the trenches of the Ivy room, he began to tell me about the secrets of his life:

Why did you decide to come to Cornell?

I applied to multiple other schools and this one was...the best one, so why not? Let's go to Cornell! Even though I spent the entire previous year making fun of this place, I came anyway; it was here or Stony Brook Honors.

What was your first impression of Cornell? Of CBS?

CBS. I loved it. It's great. It had good music. Music I liked. Music I knew. It had open sharing, which was something that was a part of my home church. It also had loads of fun people, just in general, and I knew Mike Chin and Justin Deng from conferences back at my home church. I came to Cornell looking for a fellowship. During the first ACE, all I remember is eating cereal and I thought we just had food every week. But then I found out we had fun and games too. I also later learned about the whole new world of Brawl Minus.

If you had to choose an animal to follow you around for the rest of your life, what would it be and why?

Huhhh, that's a dilemma. I'd pick a dingo, cause then I can say in an Australian accent: "the dingo ate my baby." And cause the dingo is Australian. But I'd give it food, not babies of course. It's also exotic in this area; it'd draw a lot of attention.

What do you hope to accomplish by the end of your time at Cornell?

I'd like to find a major and I'd like to make some lasting friendships and connections. I'd definitely want to grow in my faith. Deciding on a major would be like a last minute thing. Well I'm already working on making connections and friends; I've already made friends. As for developing my faith, that we'll have to see.

What do you think is the best part about being a freshman?

I hear the workload is not that much even though I feel like... well no it's not that much. As a freshmen, everything is new, everything is exciting, and people care for you more.

Word Associations

CALS: agriculture and that..sense
Senior Class: Thomas
Float: Van Kim, that's her first name
Junior Class: Eddygate
Roll: Food
Sophomore Class: Tim Hu
Quintessential: League of Legends
Bubbles: Tea
Freshmen Class: Nooooooooooooo

As it turned out, Harry was fairly straight-forward and yet entertaining to listen to. Throughout our time together, he reassured me with his typical, dimpled, smile. I was left wondering what the future holds for him and how his training would transform him to a whole new level.



I drew this scene and really like it because it's a really easy phrase to say for it to make sense. "You shall not pass!" It reminds me of this demotivational poster I once saw that said, "If you don't study, you shall not pass!" [When I asked him where he was in the picture, he drew the Mudkip.]

Himmy Lo

Hong Kong
Biological Engineering
Interviewer: Yipu Wang '13

One cold and rainy day, I was outside crawling around on my hands and knees, trying to figure out why unicorns exist only in Montana, when I suddenly found myself staring down at a total stranger. Shielding his eyes from the sun, he told me to put on some clothes, and then started to talk to me about a particular conjecture he had about the probability of having a picnic cut short by a meteor shower while doing a headstand. After we worked on this problem for about four hours and thirty-seven seconds, we published our results and started to discuss different methods of taking over the world using nothing but forty-six and two-thirds jars of peanut butter and exactly five nanometers of string. Over time our conversation took a strange turn...

Why did you decide to come to Cornell?

By April I had decided to study biological or agricultural engineering, and my choices were to go to either Purdue or Cornell. I was the second person in my high school to be accepted to one of the Ivy League schools, which were really hyped by the rest of my class, but I found that Purdue graduates had higher starting salaries and job placement rates. The tuition was much cheaper at Purdue, but my mom said that if God wanted me at Cornell, he would provide for us financially. After doing more research, I decided to go to Cornell because I felt its courses were deeper and its program more flexible. I prayed a lot about this, but even after classes started I still had no peace about my decision. It wasn't until I saw God helping me pull through my hard classes that I became convinced that God wanted me here.

What was your first impression of Cornell? Of CBS?

Before coming to Cornell I expected that people would lock themselves in their rooms to study. When I first got here I was repulsed to find that college students could be so immature in real life, getting drunk and making messes in the laundry room and bathroom. But I started to meet smart people in my classes, which made me more humble. I eventually came to see that the people who initially repulsed me were merely lost, not irresponsible. They knew they were chasing after unsatisfying things, but didn't have anywhere to turn. From this I have realized just how much Christ has changed my life.

The first time I came to CBS I felt very welcome because many people were willing to take the initiative to talk to and get to know me. I saw that there was good bonding within the fellowship; people interacted with each other during the week and not only during church and large group. CBS has shown me what real fellowship is like.

If you had to choose an animal to follow you around for the rest of your life, what would it be and why?

I want a horse that I can ride. I have an 8 AM class that I need to be able to get to in less than 6 minutes and I don't run very fast.

What do you hope to accomplish by the end of your time at Cornell?

Word Associations

Duffield: CBS

CALS: Ag School

Senior Class: Old

Float: Bubble

Junior Class: Not so old

Roll: Ground

Sophomore Class: Not so young

Quintessential: Essence

Bubbles: Soap

Freshman Class: Weird

1. I want to grow much more in Christ. My spiritual life was stagnant when I was in high school.
2. I want to be more equipped for God's ministry and learn how to better serve others.
3. I want to reach out to non-believers on campus.

What do you think is the best part about being a freshman?

The classes are easier. I have less work and get more sleep than I did in high school. I have time to have daily devotions and go to Bible study, prayer meeting, fellowship, and church.

He thinks the freshman class is weird. Apparently I did too a year ago. This is a decidedly strange coincidence, which, in the future, may shed more light on the problem of unicorn extinction. I shall have to think more about this. In the meantime, you are all welcome to contribute your thoughts on the fastest way to eat a jar of peanut butter. But remember that your ideas need to be in line with 1 Corinthians 10:31: "Whether, then, you eat or drink or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God."



It's the battle of Minas Tirith, except that I can't draw enough Uruk-hai.

Jaime Lee

New Jersey
Industrial and Labor Relations
Interviewer: Ann Lin '13

A proficient baker, Jaime is intuitive and experienced in making cupcakes. She skillfully and effortlessly measured, prepared, mixed, poured, and washed, while conversing with Vivian, Elbert and me about her freshmen year. As we waited for the cupcakes to bake in the oven, I took advantage of the time and conducted the interview. Towards the end when she was starting to draw her favourite movie scene, she suddenly jolted up, "the cupcakes!", and I looked at the time: exactly 1 minute past the time we were supposed to take them out. See what I mean by her instinctive sense for baking?

Why did you decide to come to Cornell?

Because my mom wouldn't let me to go to XXXXX. But don't put that in the interview. [Sorry Jaime, I decided not to censor this in the end ho ho ho] Well the program here is better. ILR is a good prelaw program. And the arts and music programs are good too.

What was your first impression of Cornell? Of CBS?

CORNELL:

There are a lot of hippies in Ithaca. [Really?!] Yes! Don't you see them around?

It's also really pretty with the rural environment I've never experienced. Hmm actually, my first first impression was like, oh it's boarding school all over again.

CBS:

All the people were super nice – not many Cornell people are nice.

If you had to choose an animal to follow you around for the rest of your life, what would it be and why?

Kitten. Cannot be a cat. It always has to be a kitten. They're so cute! [How about puppies?] They're not as cute as kittens.

What do you hope to accomplish by the end of your time at Cornell?

Get into law school. Learn French fluently [Jaime loves Paris]. Learn how to oil paint.

What do you think is the best part about being a freshman?

Everything is still new. First snow. First Christmas. The excitement that comes with newness.

After hurriedly sending Jaime to catch the 11:18PM bus at Schwartz, I ran back to taste test one of the cupcakes (they were for refreshments for church the next day). Yes, with a thick layer of icing and sprinkles. Oh the delight of savouring desserts. I became very convinced that there are

Word Associations

Duffield: Nerd display

CALS: Farmer

Senior Class: Old

Float: Boat

Junior Class: Stress

Roll: Jack and Jill

Sophomore Class: Vivian

Quintessential: Music

Bubbles: Soap

Freshmen Class: Immature (referring to the entire class of 2014)

plenty cupcakes in heaven. Anyway Jaime got back to north safely but never got to taste her accomplishments. But I'm pretty sure that making cupcakes is a piece of cake for her and she already knows her ability.



Jaime likes Audrey Hepburn =)

Jeffrey Huang

Sugarland, Texas
Material Science and Engineering
Interviewer: Mark Dong '12

I awake to the sound of chimes. It is pitched dark; the sun must have set. I look around—where am I? The place is empty. A thin stream of moonlight leaks through the window. I look around me—Michael is gone, and so are my papers. I quickly get out of the chair and turn to the hallway to leave. What am I doing here? Mac's Café is closed, and all the doors are closed. I turn to leave through the door, but as I push, the door doesn't budge. "Looking for me?" I see a dark silhouette sitting at the table where I fell asleep. I suddenly remembered—I needed information to complete my mission. "Who are you? Are you Michael?" I ask. "No," he responds, "I'm Jeff." I start asking right away:

Why did you decide to come to Cornell?

I heard that there were cool people here (hint hint). And it's good at engineering.

What was your first impression of Cornell? Of CBS?

It's the middle of nowhere, eh I don't know. And CBS is cool because there's lots of Asian people.

[I have this strange feeling that I've done this all before. This is weird—perhaps the darkness is getting to me. I press onwards.]

If you had to choose an animal to follow you around for the rest of your life, what would it be and why?

A snake, because they're portable. I can also use it as a weapon. That's it.

[Wait a minute! I remember now. This was the silly question that I had asked before... why does it seem so serious now? Is this the key piece of information?]

What do you hope to accomplish by the end of your time at Cornell?

Hopefully not be poor, I plan to blow stuff up in grad school. Make friends.

What do you think is the best part about being a freshman?

It's like a new beginning. Also, I have a free bus pass.

I finally remember now what my mission is. I quickly get up off the chair and tell Jeff to draw me a picture. He draws an exploding car. I have all I need, so I get up and walk towards the door. Is it still locked? As I push it, the door doesn't budge. "Mark." I turn around, but Jeff is gone. "Mark!"

"Mark, are you awake?" I open my eyes. The sunlight streaming from the window has become redder, and I realize I'm back at the table at Mac's Café. Michael is sitting next to me once more. I thank him for the interview and I grab my things and leave.

Word Associations

Duffield: Engineering

CALS: Boring

Senior Class: Old

Float: Floating point numbers

Junior Class: Awesome!

Roll: Dice

Sophomore Class: Uhhhhhhhhh....

Quintessential: Space

Bubbles: Jesus

Freshmen Class: Young and Noobs

"Big Boss, can you hear me? It's me, Ocelot. I obtained the information you needed, and as we suspected, Snake is the culprit—he's the secret weapon we've been looking for. His outer person wouldn't tell me, but I drifted into mind and his inner self to complete the extraction. I await your next move."



It's an exploding car, from a movie with exploding cars. But it has to be a good movie with exploding cars. With a rocket.

Jeffrey Wai

Plainsboro, New Jersey
Computer Science
Interviewer: Phuc Gin '12

So I'm sitting here at RPCC waiting for Jeff Wai and wondering where is he? Then I hear someone walking towards me, and I don't know who it is, could it be Jeff Wai? It turns out it isn't; unfortunately, it is Nathan Kwong, Jeff Wai's prayer partner, and I am a bit disappointed that it isn't Jeff Wai. Sigh... Then here comes Jeff Wai! So I pull Jeff Wai from his PP and the interview is on!

Why did you decide to come to Cornell?

I wanted to major in CS and Cornell is strong in it. It is also near my hometown NJ. Cornell is also very diverse.

What was your first impression of Cornell? Of CBS?

My first impression of Cornell is that it is more friendly than I thought because people say it's cut throat [*Yeah Cornell is kind of too big to see a lot of the competition*]. It also offers lots of opportunity and sometimes I feel lost. I'm still exploring. [*Yeah take advantage of all of Cornell's opportunities!*] The upperclassmen are friendly. I thought the announcement was super long though. ACE is good and it helps us connect and it is a good way to get to know people.

If you had to choose an animal to follow you around for the rest of your life, what would it be and why?

Dragon, because I just want it to follow me like in the anime and be part of my spirit. [**Points at Nathan,* Do you know Nathan's nickname is dragon? Haha. *Get the irony here?**]

What do you hope to accomplish by the end of your time at Cornell?

Well, I was an ESL student [*Oh so was I!*] and I want to be able to surely express myself in English. Also to grow intellectually and also in God as well.

What do you think is the best part about being a freshman?

CBS upperclassmen are generally nice to us. It is also stress free.

Wow this cool Jeff Wai person is so chill that his coolness will make your drink cold! So if you have a cup of hot coffee and want it to cool for a bit, come and see Jeff Wai! But make sure you bring a heavy coat in order to survive in his coolness.

Word Associations

Duffield: CS

CALS: Like C-A-L-S? [*Haha yes!*]. eh.. I don't know.

Senior Class: Grad school

Float: Programming like the data type

Junior Class: Internship

Roll: Rick

Sophomore Class: Haha, funny story. When I think of sophomore, it reminds me that I didn't know how to spell sophomore. But now I do! [*Oh don't worry, sophomore is a difficult word to spell :-p!*]

Quintessential: Vocab.

Bubbles: Burst

Freshmen Class: US!



Wai!!! People always make nick names for me. And it is a good reminder not to be so serious in prelims. Wai so serious about prelims?

John Buckley

West Greenwich, Rhode Island
China and Asia-Pacific Studies
Interviewer: Elbert Chang '11

It is a first for both of us—eating in Big Red Barn. After having a fascinating conversation about how librarians aren't that scary (along with other random topics), we get ready for the epicness that is about to occur. Get ready for the main event: John Buckley.

Why did you decide to come to Cornell?

John wanted to come here because Cornell had a “really, really, good Chinese program.” Originally, he wanted to go to some fluffy liberal arts school. In the end though, God wanted him to be at Cornell, and he has yet to regret his decision.

What was your first impression of Cornell? Of CBS?

John was initially impressed by the busy Cornell atmosphere. For him, it seemed as if something was always happening around campus. When it came to CBS, John felt something click. He could see how God could use CBS to grow him these next 3.5 years at Cornell.

If you had to choose an animal to follow you around for the rest of your life, what would it be and why?

It was either a baby penguin or baby sea lion. He simply likes both. And who could blame him! =P

What do you hope to accomplish by the end of your time at Cornell?

Aside from getting his four-year plan worked out, finding an amazing internship, and maybe even research, John hopes to become more fluent in Chinese and to be more involved in CBS. Quite the full plate he's got there.

What do you think is the best part about being a freshman?

John has already been told that “it doesn't get any better than [freshman year].” So I guess he is striving to enjoy this whole experience while it lasts. In essence, the best part about being a freshman is being a freshman.

There you have it! After the interview, we found ourselves talking about a variety of things including (but not limited to) the awesomeness of paper with cut corners, praise team, Pixar movies, and whatnot! If you have yet to meet John, please do take the time to say hi and prepare yourself for a fun conversation. This guy clearly has a lot of his mind and heart to serve God while he is here for the next 3.5 years.

Word Association

Duffield: Lil' Wayne [*Referring to the song “Duffel Bag Boy”*]

CALS: Red

Senior Class: Ten [*John has been seeing SENIOR shirts all about campus*]

Float: Boat

Junior Class: Blue [*It's more of a harder, deeper blue*]

Roll: Hot Cross Buns

Sophomore Class: Blue [*A lighter shade of blue compared to the Junior Class*]

Quintessential: Crystal Basin

Bubbles: Bubbles

Freshmen Class: Orange



Darth Vader's The Fighter meets. One of my favorite Pixar Movies

John Widjaja

Cupertino, California

Biology

Interviewer: Nathan Kwong '12

My hands slowly clenched around my pen and paper as I walked out of Phillips 101, a mixture of dread and excitement building within my stomach. This was it, the moment I had been waiting for so long. Only a few alcoves away waited the legendary John Widjaja. After hearing of his daring exploits from an exuberant Dave Ho and an animated Samantha last year, I knew that we were destined to meet. In those moments as I neared the alcove, time seemed to slow down as a flood of thoughts rushed through my brain. Was John truly as legendary as foretold? Was this finally the fulfillment of destiny? Did my hair look ok??? Taking a deep breath, I quickly calmed my nerves and sat down across from John and cautiously began the interview process, not quite knowing what to expect from this living legend.

Why did you decide to come to Cornell?

I thought Cornell would challenge me the most academically, personally, and spiritually. It was the place that I felt would be the biggest change in environment.

What was your first impression of Cornell? Of CBS?

I thought Cornell was really quiet and empty. The weather was hecka nice, so I couldn't imagine it snowing in Ithaca. I thought CBS was pretty cool; the style of worship was similar to that of the church I went to in California. My first impression of CBS was that I really liked the people there.

If you had to choose an animal to follow you around for the rest of your life, what would it be and why?

Giraffe. I would want to climb it to get a better view of things. And I think it would be fun taking care of it, finding out what it eats, and making sure it doesn't get too sick.

What do you hope to accomplish by the end of your time at Cornell?

I hope I'll know whether or not God wants me to be a doctor. Right now, that's what I want to do, but I'm not sure if that's really God's plan.

What do you think is the best part about being a freshman?

I feel like I don't have a lot of pressure or responsibility, so I have more freedom to try new stuff out. Also, I like living on North because it's really easy to meet up with other freshmen.

Word Associations

Duffield: Hall

CALS: AEM

Senior Class: Van-Kim, that's my first name!

Float: Parade

Junior Class: Master Sword

Roll: Rick

Sophomore Class: Tim who?

Quintessential: Mr. Hallam [10th grade teacher who taught him the Word]

Bubbles: Buttercup

Freshmen Class: Nooooo! (with hand motions)

I'm glad to say that John was more than just legendary; he was also humble in spirit, full of energy, and quite humorous. His unending supply of puns, coupled with warm smiles and a friendly demeanor, made getting to know him a little better a true privilege. I'm excited to see how God will shape and mold him as he continues to grow in his faith here at Cornell.



The scene from "My Sassy Girl" where he tells some dude

Jonathan Hsu

China
Biology (premed)
Interviewer: Jeffrey Yu '13

Upon our initial meeting in Collegetown, Jonathan didn't have a restaurant in mind, so we toured Collegetown for a bit before deciding to eat at Apollo's, as he had never been there before. As I sat down to eat lunch with Jonathan, I could tell this was going to be an interesting conversation.

Why did you decide to come to Cornell?

In short, it was where I received the most aid financially, and also because I like the cold weather!

What was your first impression of Cornell? Of CBS?

It's gigantic! When I was moving in on North Campus and looked down upon Central, I could see the entire campus, and it was huge. I have visited the University of Virginia before, which is technically larger, but you can't see the entire campus in a single view. I found CBS to be very loving and accepting, with everyone on fire for Christ.

If you had to choose an animal to follow you around for the rest of your life, what would it be and why?

Well, if I could choose a mythical animal, it would have to be the phoenix. I like birds in general, and the unique trait of the phoenix in Greek mythology is its ability to rise back to life from its ashes. Its power to revive itself from the dead is symbolic of Christ and His resurrection. However, if I had to pick a modern-day animal, it would be the swift. It is the fastest flying bird in the world (excluding the peregrine falcon, which has a faster diving speed), and I like its sense of freedom. I like birds because they seem so free when they're flying, so close to heaven.

What do you hope to accomplish by the end of your time in Cornell?

Firstly, I would like to grow as a Christian in CBS. Another personal goal of mine is to run a complete loop around the entire Cornell campus.

What do you think is the best part about being a freshman?

I think it's easier to get to know people, since people are from all over the world and no one knows each other anyway. It's a time where people forgive you for your mistakes because they know you're a freshman, whereas they assume other first-year students, such as sophomore transfers, should already be familiar to the campus and are less forgiving of them. Overall, I just feel a sense of newness, of being born again.

Throughout the interview, we talked about many diverse topics, including academics, freshman life, friends, and his

Word Associations

Duffield: Engineer

CALS: Agriculture

Senior Class: Thomas Jefferson

Float: Homecoming

Junior Class: Physics

Roll: Spring

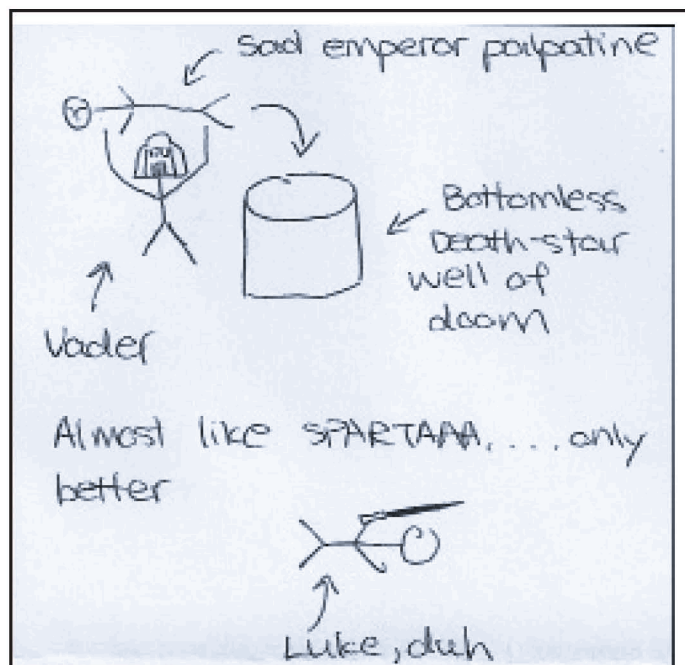
Sophomore Class: CBS

Quintessential: English paper

Bubbles: Bath

Freshman Class: North

love for birds! Jonathan is a very friendly and sociable guy, so if you don't yet know him, you will soon!



I've always loved the Star Wars series since I was young. I saw it as one of the purest good vs. evil series out there with few complications that distorted the overall meaning of the action. I picked this scene partially because it's so touching (I mean, a father finally stands up and sacrifices himself for the son), and partially because it's one of the scenes you can see coming from a mile away, but is still so EPIC regardless.

Jonathan Lin

San Marino, California
Human Biology, Health and Society
Interviewer: Justin Deng '12

It had been a while since I had met up with Jonathan Lin, so I was excited to catch up with him during our BoL interview. Jonathan looked as cool as ever.

Why did you decide to come to Cornell?

The main reason was academic—there were a lot of opportunities in this major here at Cornell. I really like nutrition, but wanted to gain a wider perspective of health and society. Basically, I liked social science, and I didn't want too much biology.

I came in as a prefrish as a part of a program in HBHS, and really liked the atmosphere in HBHS. I stayed with a person in that major who showed me around. This person was kind of a mentor, and I liked the smaller size of my college and how friendly the people were. From that experience, and the relationships I formed during those couple of days, I decided that Cornell would be a good place to go. I also wanted to get out of the state, and go into a private school.

Still, I was deciding between Northwestern and Cornell in the end, and both schools offered around the same money. Northwestern offered more grant money than Cornell, which offered more student loans, so my parents were leaning towards Northwestern. But it was really my experience as a prefrish that made me choose Cornell.

What was your first impression of Cornell? Of CBS?

The first time I came to Cornell was as a prefrish. It was a bit daunting because of the size of the campus, and I had to walk all the time. The campus was beautiful, though, and so were the buildings. I talked to a lot of people in Human Ecology, and they were very hospitable and laid back. They seemed enthusiastic and liked what they did."

My first impression of CBS really came during orientation week, during Interfelly Fair. Before the fair though, I met Elbert and Pastor Paul at FICCC, and I heard about CBS through Elbert. I thought CBS was pretty enthusiastic, and eager to tell others about the fellowship. I never really had a fellowship experience back home, so I didn't know what to expect, but I liked it because everyone seemed to know each other and get along. I also wanted to have a different sort of Friday than the usual college Friday—just to be able to fellowship with people with whom you can really share.

If you had to choose an animal to follow you around for the rest of your life, what would it be and why?

I would want a bird to follow me around, so that way I can sit on its back and fly around from time to time. I want to look at the world from 1000 feet in the air, just to gain a bit of perspective about how small we are in comparison to God.

What do you hope to accomplish by the end of your time at Cornell?

I have academic goals, but those aren't really the main thing. I want to get something out of my education and be

Word Associations

Duffield: Engineers

CALS: Farmers

Senior Class: Tall people *[Elbert popped in his mind. Ironic because the rest are short.]*

Float: Ice cream float

Junior Class: "Study breaks"

Roll: Egg rolls

Sophomore class: Olivia

Quintessential: Can I get a dictionary? *[I forgot what it meant too]*

Bubbles: Poliwag

Freshmen class: So many different personalities

able to apply that to my career. I want to discover what I am actually interested in, and develop that interest into a career path where I can give back to society and help others.

On a more personal level, I want to lead a more spiritual life. I didn't really get pushed to go to Church back home, and Elbert was surprised that I sought it out in college. But I want to take the first few steps, at least, in this Christian walk, to find out more about the Bible and understand God's Word.

What do you think is the best part about being a freshman?

The best thing about being a freshman is that I am able to enjoy all the opportunities. Everything is new—I'm a part of EARS training, in a research lab with Van-Kim, and just able to experience and try out all these new things.

It was a true privilege to get to know more about Jonathan's life and be able to share some of mine throughout the interview. It is my prayer for Jonathan that in a year or so (when I'm still around!), we can look back on this BoL interview, and laugh about how far God has brought us in such a short amount of time.



When I think of Cornell University I think of God's Majesty when I sit on the slope and watch sunsets. And my class has super long prayer meetings, and I think I'll miss that the most. That's why there's a pocket watch (the kind that old-fashioned people have 'cause we're old).

Lemuel Kumarga

Jakarta, Indonesia
Operations Research
Interviewer: Phuc Gin'12

It is a Wednesday night and North Dinner was going on. Did I feel bad for not going? NOPE!! Because I was going to eat with Mr. Lemuel Kumarga! So we got dinner at Trillium. I ordered a spicy beef wrap and he ordered a manly Crispy Taco Salad. Then we got a table. I had my spicy beef wrap in one hand and my pen in the other and the interview was on!

Why did you decide to come to Cornell?

I decided to come to Cornell because it was isolated from the whole population. It was very rural. You do not get that kind of opportunity that often [Yeah Cornell is like in the middle of nowhere]. I mean you will probably be in the city after you graduate and when you find a job.

What was your first impression of Cornell? Of CBS?

My first impression Cornell was that it helped me realize how vast the world is. When I was doing my international student orientation, I got to see and meet people from all over the world. I got to meet people from Kenya, U.S., and all over the world. It's an eye opener. CBS? Haha. I thought it was only for Chinese citizens and I was wondering why Chinese people are having their own separate Bible study. But then when I went to CBS, everyone was speaking English! I guess not everyone can speak Chinese [Haha, I guess the name can be quite deceiving!].

If you had to choose an animal to follow you around for the rest of your life, what would it be and why?

I would choose a dolphin because research shows they are the most intellectual and most empathetical animals! [Sheesh dogs are just as intellectual and empathetic! Come on where are my dog lovers?!]

What do you hope to accomplish by the end of your time at Cornell?

Make lots of friends. Get closer to God, and it is not easy, especially when you come to a new environment. Get a decent job. And a relationship. [Like a girlfriend?] Yeah.

What do you think is the best part about being a freshman?

I think the best part about being a freshman is making friends. Also just experiencing dorm lifestyle. Also playing bang with friends [Yeah making friends is always fun! Make sure you keep in touch with them throughout your Cornell years!]. And the worst part about being a freshman is freshman writing seminar!

Word Associations

Duffield: Sushi [I'm guessing you get sushi at Mattins'? Haha] Yeah.

CALS: *With a confused look on his face,* uhh, Miiiiillllk? [Haha, I guess CALS does sound like cows, haha. Understandable.]

Senior Class: Old [Yeah they are pretty old! Oldies!]

Float: Fat

Junior Class: Neither here or there [What?!? What does that mean! Haha]

Roll: Fat [Sheesh 2 fats in a row! Haha!]

Sophomore Class: No life [I guess it's because they are always studying huh?] Yeah.

Quintessential: What does that mean? [I have no clue... Who picked this word?]

Bubbles: Burst

Freshmen Class: Young and innocent [For now! Muhaha!]

Young and innocent! Have you forgotten those days? If you have, well, Lemuel is the one to go to! He will jog your memory and remind you of those young and innocent days (That means you old seniors!). I know I need a good reminder of those young and innocent days! So there is no excuse for any of you not to go and get to know him!



It's an anime movie, My Neighbor Totoro! It was made in 1988. See this makes me seem young and innocent because Totoro is young and innocent.

Michael Cao

Princeton Junction/West Windsor, New Jersey
Mechanical Engineering
Interviewer: Mark Dong'12

Insomnia. Weird things happen in your mind from lack of sleep, and accepting an important mission to gain some critical information is not the greatest idea. I must get to Statler Hotel before the sun goes down. My last mission at Statler was unsuccessful, so I must approach this one with more caution. Arriving outside of Mac's Café, I sat down, waiting for the informant named "Michael." After an unusually long time, someone came and sat in the chair next to me. Without looking at him, I asked him the questions necessary.

Why did you decide to come to Cornell?

I was accepted only into two schools, Carnegie Mellon U and Cornell. Cornell was better for Mechanical engineering.

[The sunlight streamed from the window, casting a glow of light that made the place difficult to see, blurring the lines between the objects. I continued on.]

What was your first impression of Cornell? Of CBS?

Pretty nice, very friendly. During orientation you can talk to anyone you want. CBS also very friendly; you also can talk to everyone. Cornell's first impressions didn't last very long, as everything just became separated. CBS, however, is very family-like, and that still lasts.

If you had to choose an animal to follow you around for the rest of your life, what would it be and why?

A bird. It's the least distracting and can follow me anywhere. Maybe a small bird. This is a silly question.

[Shoot, I've lost track of the questions I needed to ask to complete the mission. Let's get back on track. Michael's voice seems more distant as time goes on...]

What do you hope to accomplish by the end of your time at Cornell?

To get a degree. Hopefully make lots of friends and gain some promising job.

What do you think is the best part about being a freshman?

There's not a lot of pressure of moving ahead, no worrying about internships or too much pressure on other stuff. Don't need to push yourself into the adult world right away.

I see. The purposes and ambitions come to the fore, except I'm not able to pinpoint what I need. I feel like I'm forgetting what he said already. Why did he come here? What did he hope to accomplish? I look to my left to look at who I'm talking to, but the sunlight casts shadows, obscuring my view. I pass a sheet of paper to him and ask him to draw for me what I needed to see. A scene—a memory—something, anything. And he drew a picture of

Word Associations:

Duffield: Nano

CALS: Cows

Senior Class: Meh

Float: Root Beer

Junior Class: Eddygate

Roll: Rock

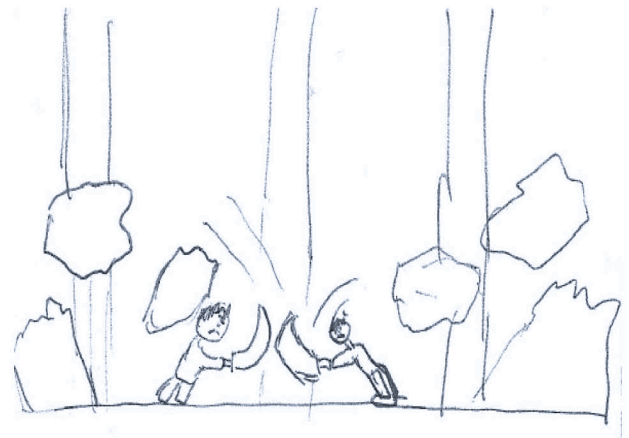
Sophomore Class: Meh

Quintessential: Essential

Bubbles: Tea

Freshmen Class: Meh

two people fighting with swords and vengeance. He spoke, but I couldn't hear. As he wrote down the description, the lack of sleep blurs my vision and senses. I breathe slowly and close my eyes, feeling myself slip away... Why am I here? What was my mission?



This is from Unlimited Blade Works. The plot is the main character meets his future self who's very upset with his life that he wants to kill himself by killing his younger self. They both have the power to create swords out of thin air, so obviously the future one is better at this but the younger one is becoming much better at this fight. So they're fighting each other. (The younger self wins).

Michael Feng

Houston, Texas
Undecided, Arts and Sciences
Interviewer: Timothy Chen '13

This year, I had the pleasure of interviewing Michael Feng, a freshman from the College of Arts and Sciences. Through the host of new things I learned about him during our Q&A session, I was particularly happy to hear that he values spiritual growth, an aspect that is crucial to any Christian college student.

Why did you decide to come to Cornell?

Michael decided to come to Cornell because of proximity. His other choice was Rice, and since he lives in Houston and does not want to go to a school that is so close to his house, he chose Cornell. "Rice is literally minutes from my house," remarked Michael, and he noted that living far away from home would give him independence, a "real college experience."

What was your first impression of Cornell? Of CBS?

"The first time I stepped onto campus was the first day I was here: move-in day," said Michael Feng. He had never previously visited Cornell but had still decided to matriculate. Although Michael couldn't recall the specifics, he noted that Cornell had a very diverse student body (relative to his home in Texas); people from all different ethnicities were present. It was also very beautiful during the summer, noted Michael, but he is apprehensive about the winter. He has never lived in a place where it snows. Michael's first impression of CBS was a positive one. "All the songs we sang the first time I came to CBS—I knew those songs," he exclaimed. They were the same songs that Michael's congregation at home would often sing. Michael was very excited about CBS during his first meeting and thoroughly enjoyed the worship and sharing sessions. He took it as a "sign from God" that CBS was a great fellowship and that he belonged here.

If you had to choose an animal to follow you around for the rest of your life, what would it be and why?

Michael was somewhat hesitant to choose a specific animal that would follow him around for the rest of his life, but he knew he wanted a "flier"—i.e., something that flies. He first contemplated a cheetah but then decided against it. Michael then said that a bird would be appropriate: he wouldn't step on it while it was following him around, as he didn't want to crush his animal. Michael gave an example in which this might come in handy: as an avid basketball player, he didn't want to trample his animal during his games, and he thought it would be cool to have something flying overhead, watching over him. He also said that his friends would probably think the bird was cool.

What do you hope to accomplish by the end of your time at Cornell?

Michael outlined his hopes of accomplishment in two categories: spiritual and academic. First, Michael said, he wanted to grow in the Lord spiritually. He wanted to be more confident to preach the gospel to his friends and classmates at Cornell.

Second, Michael simply wanted "to pass." On top of that,

Word Associations

CALS: Business school

Senior Class: ast year

Float: A boat

Junior Class: The year before senior year

Roll: Dinner

Sophomore Class: The year before junior year

Quintessential: Something that's very pure

Bubbles: They pop

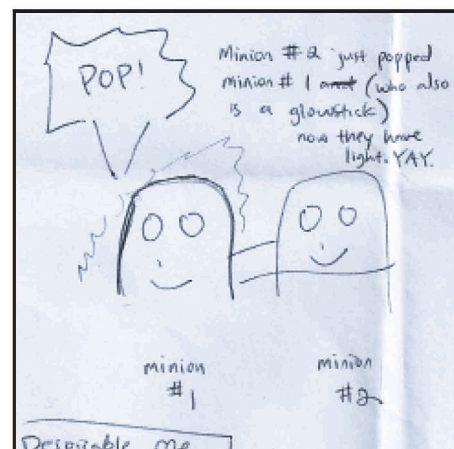
Freshman Class: Me

he wanted to take advantage of all the resources available at Cornell—and not to regret his time here. "There are so many things to pick and study out there," Michael observed, so he wants to study something that he is genuinely passionate about.

What do you think is the best part about being a freshman?

Flexibility. Michael pointed out that he does not have a major, so he has a lot of flexibility on what courses to take and what topics to cover. "A lot of engineers have a rigid set of classes that they need to take," he said, "but I get to pick and choose from a wide variety." Michael is happy with his flexibility and plans to incorporate a broad set of courses next semester into his schedule.

Michael is an energetic young man who is open to new ideas and excited about the vast terrain of course offerings at Cornell. He is one of the many people in CBS from Texas, so I have no doubt that he will have an easy time fitting in. And judging from his academic prowess and initiative, I believe that Michael is poised for success at Cornell.



Rachel Ann

Philippines
Engineering

Interviewer: Sandra Quah '12

Villamayor

Rachel sneaked up on me and Kathleen in Duffield! Not really. Being her quiet self, she managed to walk over without us noticing. After a few moments of poking and awkwardness, we began our interview!

Why did you decide to come to Cornell?

It's away from home and it's beautiful! I wanted to explore. I'm pretty adventurous.

What was your first impression of Cornell? Of CBS?

Cornell: So huge and so cold! [During PREPARE??] Yeah! It was already cold in the summer! CBS: HUGE family! So many Chinese!

If you had to choose an animal to follow you around for the rest of your life, what would it be and why?

Butterfly. I won't have to take care of it, and it would just fly around and follow me. [Huh? Butterflies can't do anything though.] Actually, I would want a dragon, if it were possible. It can fly, so I don't have to take the bus!

What do you hope to accomplish by the end of your time at Cornell?

A degree... and gorge jumping. To have many close friends.

What do you think is the best part about being a freshman?

Free bus passes and close dining halls. It's too cold to walk! I guess also the workload is not as huge as that of an upperclassman.

I told Rachel that the theme of her interview seemed to be "not having to walk," and have everything be close by, or something along those lines, and she laughed. Rachel might not be very talkative, but she is very unique and you should get to know her! You could try that by poking her, I guess. But don't expect to catch her walking around campus! Try a bus instead.

Word Associations

Duffield: Huge

CALS: Too far

Senior Class: Huh? VK? VK stands out

Float: Computer science [Nerdy?] I took JAVA in high school...

Junior Class: Jackie!

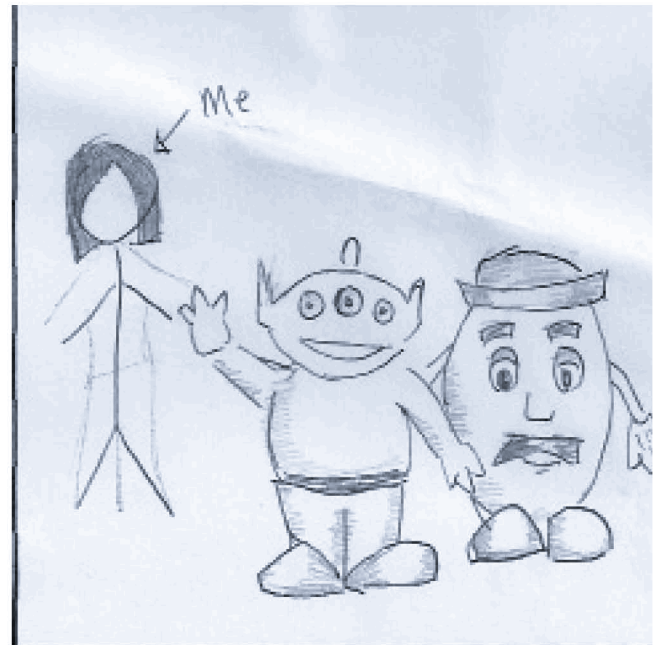
Roll: Role play? Oh roll! Ball

Sophomore Class: Huge

Quintessential: What's that?

Bubbles: Pops

Freshmen Class: West Campus eating



I loved the movie Toy Story 3. I can't think of any scene so I just drew two of the characters. I'm a stick figure 'cause I don't know how to draw myself.

Wendy Gu

Plainsboro, New Jersey
Chemical Engineering
Interviewer: Kimberly Hui '13

On a typical blustery and gray Ithaca day, Wendy and I sat down at the popular Statler Terrace Restaurant as I got to know this friendly freshman.

Why did you decide to come to Cornell?

I liked the campus and strong academic programs.

What was your first impression of Cornell? Of CBS?

Cornell: The people were nice. CBS: Everyone was really passionate. Also, everyone's really different.

If you had to choose an animal to follow you around for the rest of your life, what would it be and why?

Giraffe! Because they're really tall and can beat up anyone who comes in my way and everyone would think it's really cool. [They're also her favorite animal.]

What do you hope to accomplish by the end of your time at Cornell?

Um...Become a better person? Get good grades, learn to know God more. Experience life.

What do you think is the best part about being a freshman?

There are a lot of people to help you and look out for you.

Although our interview was short, I'm thankful to have had the chance to chat with this pleasant, giraffe-loving freshman! This interview can hardly capture Wendy, so spend some time with her and get to know this unique girl.

Word Associations

Duffield: New

CALS: Cows because that rhymes with CALS and it's the Ag school. Also my roommate is in CALS.

Senior Class: Fun

Float: Sink

Junior Class: Short [LOL why?] All the people in the junior class are really short. I guess what I'm saying is Chinese people are short.

Roll: Tootsie, I ate one yesterday

Sophomore Class: Kim

Quintessential: High school vocab. On my SATs.

Bubbles: Rubber Ducky

Freshmen Class: NooooOOoooo



Toy Story 3! And because Totoro is also my favorite movie [So she chose the scene with Totoro in it]. Our class was sad because we all graduated with Andy.

Wendy Zhang

Long Island, New York
Industrial and Labor Relations
Interviewer: Vivian Yang '13

After helping to move the surprisingly heavy CBS welcome table into position in front of Philips 101, I turn around and see Wendy Zhang walking towards me, decked out in a sweater, running tights, and running shoes obviously well-worn. She greets me with a bright smile, and the smile I return was all the more happy from my relief at finding her so pleasant right from the start. As we wander about Duffield in search of a free table, I find her amiable and easy-going as well. Some special banquet in the Atrium and the usual handful of studious Cornellians in the nooks eventually force us back to Philips 101, where we settle down in the back row and begin our interview, serenaded by the praise team as they practice.

Why did you decide to come to Cornell?

Like many of us, one reason Wendy decided to come to Cornell was for the financial aid, but the decent track team here also appealed to her.

What was your first impression of Cornell? Of CBS?

Her first impression of Cornell was that it was "big." "I got lost," she says. While CBS is also big, it's student-run independence reminded her of the small, family-style church she went to back home.

What animal would she have follow her for the rest of her life?

"Wolf," is the immediate, obvious answer. "No one messes with the girl with the wolf."

What do you hope to accomplish by the end of your time at Cornell?

Throughout her time at Cornell, Wendy would like to do track every year, and by the end of it, she hopes to figure out what she wants to do in life, especially since ILR offers so many possibilities.

What's the best part about being a freshman?

"It's okay if you screw up, because you're just a freshman." I suppose that's true, but it's okay, because we all know CBS is loving and forgiving, even to upperclassmen.

After practicing on the newspaper she had brought with her—evidence of her noble effort in keeping up with current events despite Ithaca's isolation—Wendy draws her favorite movie scene, which I will leave up to you to guess. Incidentally, we both agreed that this particular movie is really good. We chat some more about movies and the University of Oregon's brilliant track and field reputation, among other things, before the start of CBS bids us to forsake the aloofness of the back row and move up front.

Word Associations

Duffield: Duffel bag, Hilary Duff, Engineers

CALS: Cows, Farms, Hicks

Senior Class: 2010, Van-Kim (prayer partner—"VK shout out!")

Float: Root beer, ice cream, parade, drowning

Junior Class: Ossa, ginormous

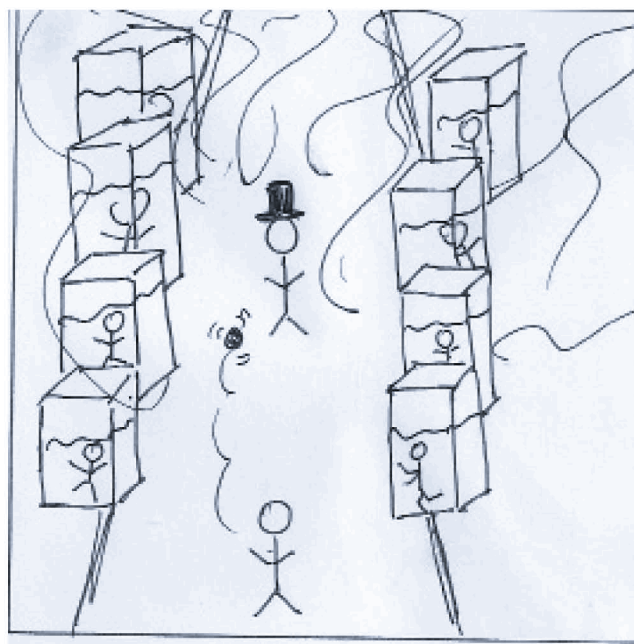
Roll: Fat people, pastries, cinnabon, lol

Sophomore Class: Chinese 1109, West Coast

Quintessential: Essential, toiletries, sparkles

Bubbles: Soap, french onion soup ("the cheese bubbles a lot"), Pokémon, rabbits, jewelry, beads

Freshmen Class: "Noooo!", dinners on west, Balch arch



YiQing Zhao

Shanghai, China

Sociology

Interviewer: Kathleen Chang '10

I told YiQing that my first impression of her will always be that of her coat. On her first night of coming to CBS, she experienced many of the unexpected events, which all somehow involved her coat. Both of us can now testify to the reliability of Cornell dry-cleaning. Anyway, meet YiQing! She is a girl of many interests and I hope with this interview, your curiosity will be sufficiently piqued!

Why did you decide to come to Cornell?

YiQing decided to come to Cornell because not only is it an Ivy League school, but it also has a strong sociology and humanities program.

What was your first impression of Cornell? Of CBS?

The first time she physically came to Cornell was this past August, when she participated in PREPARE, which is the Cornell international student orientation. It was then that she first realized that Cornell was huge. In terms of CBS, YiQing's first impression was that she really enjoyed the music.

What animal would she have follow her for the rest of her life?

Even though YiQing went to high school in Shanghai, she had the opportunity to study abroad her junior year in Texas. Her host family in Texas had four cats... so if she had to choose an animal to follow her around for the rest of her life, she would choose a cat. During her time in Texas, she realized that cats are understanding and also less needy than dogs.

What do you hope to accomplish by the end of your time at Cornell?

During her time at Cornell, YiQing would like to accomplish a variety of things! She would like to become super-fluent in Spanish (she currently lives in the Latino Living Center on North Campus and plans to study-abroad in a Spanish-speaking country). She also hopes to write a thesis on China, Latin America, Mexico, and U.S. relations. She shared with me, though, that she currently does not know of any professor here at Cornell whose research aligns with her unique interest. But it will all work out in the end!

What's the best part about being a freshman?

As a freshman, YiQing has enjoyed the many opportunities that she has to attend different club activities. Moreover, she also does not feel pressured to decide on a major.

Word Associations

Duffield: Engineers

CALS: Potato papers! [her roommate is taking a horticulture class and all she has been doing is writing papers on potatoes]

Senior class: Sungjoo Park [her PREPARE mentor]

Float: Louie's lunch

Junior class: Almost senior

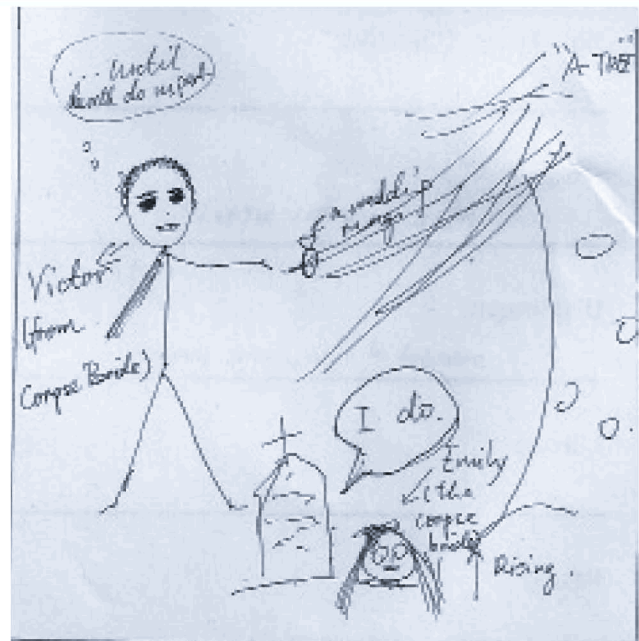
Roll: Food

Sophomore class: Very active

Quintessential: Sleep

Bubbles: Old Teahouse

Freshman class: Babies



Corpse Bride

Freedom in the Spirit

Ann Lin '13 & Vivian Yang '13

Despite the initial awkward silences that plague every CBS Bible study—silences so silent we could hear our brains furiously churning, or Ann munching on potato chips, or Ann scraping burnt brownies off a pan, or Ann sucking tapioca bubbles from the bottom of a cup—FitS turned out to be a happy, enjoyable, as well as intellectually stimulating Bible study, full of fitS of laughter.

“You foolish Galatians!” says Paul; his harsh words resonate with us as he challenges us to live in the Spirit and not by the law. He gives us an especially powerful reminder when he says, “if righteousness could be gained through the law, Christ died for nothing!” It’s offensive to God when we try to live up to his standards through human effort, yet that is what we persistently try to do. Living by the Spirit frees us. We can’t possibly earn God’s grace through our works, but at the same time, we can’t take God’s grace for granted. Seeing God’s grace in the context of the law shows us just how high God’s standards are, just how undeserving we are of his love, and thus just how precious his grace is. Yet we scorn it when we turn back to the law, which we should have outgrown when we came to faith in Christ.

So what do we do now that we are free from the law? This is a word for word repetition of one of Tim and Yipu’s challenging questions. Ideally we should live bearing “fruit of the Spirit,” but that’s easier said than done. However, the freedom that we have in the Spirit gives hope and fitS of joy!

group investigating God

David Bu '12 & Jamie Tsai '12

The group investigating God (giG) study has gone through different topics each week. We talked about what faith is, and two different types of faith—trust versus salvation. We also discussed the nature of sin, and why we need Jesus. We talked about how the people who have never heard the gospel are saved, the justice and mercy of God, and the objectivity of moral standards. We also talked about various parables such as the parable of the workers of the field and parable of the moneylender.

As Bible study leaders, we learn a lot from preparing each week, as well as during the discussion. We are challenged by the questions raised and learn to think on the spot. We feel that giG was a helpful tool that people used to learn more about God. Although the turnout was not what we had hoped for, we trusted that God used what we had for His glory and purpose.

Hebrews

Michael Cao '14

Led by Kevin Yang and Jesse Liu, the Hebrews Bible Study focuses on the book of Hebrews, one of the many epistles found in the New Testament. Unlike many other epistles, its author is unconfirmed; some speculate that it was written by Paul. Its audience is a church of Hebrews, Christians formerly of the Jewish faith.

Each week, we meet at CTB at around 6:45pm, and head off together to Summit where Kevin lives. Bible study consists of reading the passage for that night, exploring it in detail with Kevin and Jesse's guidance, and eating the snacks that Kevin and Jesse have so graciously provided. I come for the Oreos; I stay for the Word.

What makes Hebrews so different and studying Hebrews so interesting is the intended audience. Unlike many of the other churches addressed by the epistle who are still trying to find and understand their faith, the letter of Hebrews is sent to a people already firmly established in Judaism. Rather than viewing this Judaism foundation as a form of resistance to Christ and trying to completely overwrite the old religion with the new, the author sees this as a powerful foundation to better understand Christ and his role in fulfilling the covenants set in Judaism.

Hebrews is filled with comparisons that show how Jesus fulfills Judaism. The Jewish people had a High Priest who sacrificed for their sins, but Jesus is the ultimate High Priest who sacrificed not the blood of animals every year, but himself once and for all. The Jewish people once had the Tabernacle where God dwelled, but Jesus the High Priest "serves in the sanctuary, the true tabernacle set up by the Lord, not by man" (Hebrews 8:2). Hebrews explains how the old Law was obsolete. "(for the law made nothing perfect), and a better hope is introduced, by which we draw near to God" (Hebrews 7:19).

Hebrews ultimately shows that Christianity is not some huge radical new religion that popped out of nowhere, but is the ultimate result predicted by Scripture and promised by God. The author of Hebrews does an excellent job explaining Christianity through a Jewish view, citing Old Testament verses frequently, thus allowing us to better admire the grandeur and harmony of God's plan.

Eat. Pray. Love

Rachel Ann Villamayor '14

Despite all the work we have to do for our academic lives, it is always so refreshing just to hang out with fellow Christians and take over the comfy seats of Eddygate 4E every Tuesday night for Eat. Pray. Love.

In Eat. Pray. Love., Bible study leaders Van-Kim, Michelle and Kim led us through the book of Ephesians in which we are reminded of God's unfailing grace for us. All of us were once dead in our own innate transgressions and cravings for sinful desires. Still, God loves us and offers us redemption from our sins through faith in Christ Jesus. He made us members of His family and sealed us with the Holy Spirit. Through Eat. Pray. Love. we learned that God values the unity of the believers in the Body of Christ and that He gave spiritual gifts to each of us so that we can help fellow Christians grow in faith and live a life worthy of God's calling. Paul also wrote in the book of Ephesians some guidelines on how we could behave in a way that would glorify God.

Eat. Pray. Love. is a great time to ask questions about Ephesians and learn the book through the Bible study leaders' sharing, discussions, inductive Bible study and co-teaching. True to its name, in Eat. Pray. Love., we ate dinner once together (yay Stella's!), prayed for each other and loved each other as sisters do in Christ.

Mighty, Manly Servants of God

Himmy Lo '14

This semester, we the “Mighty Manly Servants of God” looked at various passages from the Old Testament book of 1 Samuel. Honestly, I initially decided to participate simply because the idea of a men’s Bible study sounded cool. I did not mind revisiting interesting and familiar stories of Samuel, Saul, David, and Jonathan, but I expected to find in it little relevance to twenty-first century believers.

Thus, I was surprised when God showed me how His Word is indeed living and active. This history of God’s people about three thousand years ago shed so much light on our circumstances and was so applicable to our lives. Through the experiences of the Israelites, the Holy Spirit convicted us of our sins of idolatry, arrogance, jealousy, reliance on ourselves or on the world, and seeking good things with the wrong ways and at the wrong time. Furthermore, He taught us about the proper fear of God, genuine repentance, true brotherhood, full trust and acknowledgment of the Lord, and generous sharing of God’s blessings. I enjoyed particularly our discussions, in which we examined from a masculine perspective topics such as God-centered relationships, humility to display weakness, and “getting our brothers’ backs” in video games as well as in real life.

I also looked forward to small group prayer at the end of the Bible study meetings. I really appreciated my brothers’ openness to admitting their own personal struggles. At my youth group back home, the most anyone would say is that he or she has a lot of homework or has an upcoming test. In contrast, here we confess our sins, share our difficulties, thank God for His grace, pray for ministry on campus and abroad, and make special requests on behalf of our families, friends, and classmates. They were great times of encouragement and fellowship.

In these past months, God worked through this Bible study and our daily lives to give us spiritual training that was infinitely more beneficial than protein shakes and bench-presses. May we continue to be mighty manly servants of God who find strength never in our muscles or our brains but always in the Lord our God!

The Epistle to the Romans

Sung-En Wang '11

When I was deciding which Bible study to sign up for, my two main expectations were the entertaining value of the topic and the low stress level on my brain. When I spotted Romans, I quickly put that down as my first choice. To me, Romans is simply the gospel all over again; therefore, it should be entertaining and easy on my head. As the number of my brain cells converges to zero with each Bible study, I am glad that one of my expectations was met.

Throughout the Bible studies, we went through Romans 1-8. Of course, I have learned a lot from the Bible itself such as how we fall short of God's standard, righteousness through faith, the role of the law, and living a life by the Spirit. What I have found more entertaining is that the Bible study leaders provide other relevant information each week. For example, we have discussed about the history of the Roman Empire, ancient speech structure, imputed versus infused righteousness, predestination, and the amazing purple elephant. The Bible study helped me to reaffirm my foundation of Christianity.

In the many things that I have learned, two of them have had a significant influence on me. The first is living a life according to the Spirit. Not only do we receive eternal life, but we also become heirs of God. When we face suffering, we should put our hope in God and look forward to the glory that will be revealed to us. For we are the heirs of God; "neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord." Romans 8:39 The second is my constant struggle with sin. Since we are still living in this sinful world, we sin. However, we should take note that "those who live according to the sinful nature have their minds set on what that nature desires; but those who live in accordance with the Spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires." Romans 8:5 It is a constant reminder and encouragement for me that I submit myself to God and live according to His desire.

Interestingly, my two points are somehow closely related. I guess it further shows how little brain cells I have now. Regardless of the number of brain cells that I have lost throughout the Bible studies, the encouragements I have received by far outweigh my loss. Just as the Bible has encouraged me, I want to encourage you with Romans 12:1-2, the CBS theme verse for this semester. "Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God—this is your spiritual act of worship. Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will."

Teach me your way, O Lord,
and I will walk in your truth;
give me an undivided heart,
that I may fear your name.
I will praise you, O Lord my God,
with all my heart;
I will glorify your name forever.
For great is your love toward me;
you have delivered me from the
depths of the grave.
Psalm 86: 11-13



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