<u>Mau y Dawn</u>

Q Cristianos Universitarios

Agape Madrid

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Clockwise from top left: Q Madrid students at a going away party for study abroad students, Q Brunch reflection time as we talked about essentials of the Christian faith with Christians and non-christians, our end of the year pool celebration, Q Brunch, national Q staff with some students and volunteers at the national Cru conference, a Saturday hike in the mountains of Madrid, and hands and wristbands of students who went to the end of the year celebration.

Prayer Requests

- (1) Praise the Lord for how he is at work in Spanish students' lives and in the culture as a whole. Praise the Lord for the new students we've met the past few months who are asking questions about Jesus. Pray particularly for Bruno, Claudia, Eva, Cristina, and Hector.
- (2) Praise the Lord for the support and blessing of our local church in Madrid.
- (3) Praise the Lord and pray for wonderful student leaders Pam, David, Andrea, Ricardo, Paula, Valentina and Sofia as they lead small groups, invest in others, and seek to be light to their friends and family. Pray Also for the summer projects.
- (4) Pray for wisdom for us to put the first things first as we have lots in our schedule. And as always, that our hope, joy, and peace would be in Christ alone.

Summer is Here

It may seem like the summer is long underway but for students in Madrid, summer has just begun. Only a week ago did they fully finish final exams. And, thus, this past weekend we had our end of the semester celebration!

This coming Thursday we head out with students on summer projects to walk the Camino de Santiago and to serve at the pilgrim house.

Please pray for us and this time - July 14-24. There is a broad range of where students fall in their process of discovering and following Jesus.

We pray that during this time they might come to see Jesus more clearly and that some might begin to walk closely with him.



Top down: the Q summer projects logo (the shell is a symbol of the Camino de Santiago; a local hike with students; and our backpacks in process for the Camino.

A Recap of This Semester

This academic year has been a year full of wonderful things the Lord has done, but also full of walking with students and staff through hard times.

It has been important to remember again and again the real HOPE we have in Christ, that He is FAITHFUL, that He is POWERFUL, and that nothing, nothing at all, is more powerful than the LORD nor outside of his reach.

At the same time, we've continued to see the Lord amaze us as he awakens students to the Gospel and also as he raises up laborers. Here are just some of the highlights of the past few months:

(1) This year we've seen our student leaders step out in faith and invest in others. Some of this has been through investing in others one-to-one, by starting new small groups, or by taking leadership in various events that we have.

This past semester Sofia began **Q Creative** (pictures to the top right). Each week artistic and creative students gather together to create art, and to talk (and journal) about life and faith. It has become a bit of a refuge for students amidst the pressures of demanding creative degrees, with lots of pressure, competition, and harsh critiques. It has also provided a safe space for students to begin to consider Christ. Pray for Sofia as she continues to lead the group this summer.

This summer Andrea and Paula will be leading a small group that explores who Jesus is and what he taught through the Gospel of Luke, starting July 26. Please pray for this group.

And, as we look to the fall, there will be several small groups on 2-3 campuses led by students, David will lead monthly worship nights, and Sofia will lead Q Creative.

We've seen our student leaders grow in their leadership this year, but also in their vulnerability with one another through the ups and downs of life. Praise the Lord for his powerful work in students' lives!

(2) This Spring was Picture definitely full. In March we had our national Q Spring Retreat outside of Madrid (pictures to the right). This year the theme was "The Essential" and we looked at what is essential in our relationship with ourselves, with God, and with others.



small group in a coffeeshop or in the park where they talk, journal, create, and share; Sofia with materials; and some of their artwork.

Pictures from the National Spring Q - Cristianos Universitarios Conference

We had an emcee who dressed up as the Little Prince, Argentinian line dancing, and a talent night. We had biblical talks and times in small groups, a creative reflection time in the woods with collages and different reflection stations, and time for prayer and worship. It was a full weekend that impacted students' lives.

Two students who came from Madrid and were new to Q said that the Lord used the conference to remind them that they are not alone as Christians at the university. Other students decided to begin to prioritize the Lord and their relationship with him in their schedules. Another student said she felt that God wanted her to invest her education degree in helping others to know Jesus.

In May, Agape (Cru in Spain) hosted the first **Creofest** outside of Madrid. In Spanish "creer" means to believe and "crear" means to create. "Creo" can mean both I believe and I create. Thus, with this in mind, there was a one-day creative Christian festival with music, art, workshops, and stands put on by Agape in conjunction with the National Spanish Staff Conference.

While we were there we met some

new students who want to start Q on their campuses (which just happen to be campuses we've been praying for) and some others who feel alone as Christians in their degrees and were seeking to find Christian community! Praise the Lord for his provision and pray for these students that they will get involved with Q this summer and in the fall.

(3) In June, while students were finishing up final projects and exams, we had a summer project join us from the US.

Throughout the course of a month, they talked to over 500 students, we got many new followers

on our Q Madrid Instagram account, and we met a lot of new students at picnics, English clubs, and via personal connection.

Three significant things they did were: (1) surface students at UAM, a campus where we'd like to start a small group and grow Q, (2) start an