



## Fellowship of Catholic University Students (FOCUS) Overview

Answering the Church's call for a New Evangelization, FOCUS, the Fellowship of Catholic University Students, is a national outreach that meets college students where they are and invites them into a growing relationship with Jesus Christ and the Catholic faith. FOCUS was founded in 1998 at Benedictine College by Curtis Martin. Since then the organization has grown from two missionaries on one campus to nearly 700 missionaries serving full-time on 153 college campuses, located across 42 U.S. states and at five international locations (two in Austria, one in England, one in Germany and one in Ireland): <https://focusoncampus.org/find-my-campus>.

FOCUS sends teams of missionaries (four on average) to college campuses and universities around the country to reach out to and meet college students, inviting them to examine the meaning and purpose of their lives. FOCUS missionaries are recent college graduates who make a two-year commitment to return to campus and evangelize their peers. They raise their own salaries and rely on support from generous benefactors.

### Why college campuses?

FOCUS believes it is important to evangelize college students because many fall away from the faith during the college years. Therefore, the college campus is a significant leverage point as students go out into the world. Rooted in sacred Scripture and sacred tradition, FOCUS was born out of a passion and zeal to share how a relationship with Jesus Christ and the Catholic faith can transform the world. Beginning with our nation's future leaders, FOCUS sends teams of young, trained missionaries to campus to reach students with the gospel.

In partnership with the university parish and/or Newman Center, FOCUS missionaries host large group outreach events, lead weekly Bible studies and offer one-on-one mentoring with student leaders. Missionaries welcome young adults from all walks of life and religious backgrounds to FOCUS events. Through the missionaries' personal investment and dedication, FOCUS helps to build a joyful, Christ-centered community and support network on each campus where we have a presence. Students are encouraged to join the missionaries at daily Mass and in prayer, the most vital commitment missionaries make each day.

### Mission Statement

To know Christ Jesus and fulfill His Great Commission.

### The Main Thing

*Launching Students into Lifelong Catholic Mission*

Inviting college students into a growing relationship with Jesus Christ and His Church, inspiring and equipping them for a lifetime of Christ-centered evangelization, discipleship and friendship in which they lead others to do the same.

The "win, build, send" model of FOCUS is outlined by Founder and CEO Curtis Martin in his recent book "[Making Missionary Disciples: How to Live the Method Modeled by the Master](#)," which details the approach to evangelization modeled for us by Jesus in the Gospels and rooted in Catholic magisterial teaching.

### Additional Outreach Programs

FOCUS has programs that work with athletes ([Varsity Catholic](#)) and Greek life ([FOCUS Greek](#)). FOCUS facilitates numerous global trips with [FOCUS Missions](#) and provides online formation and mentorship through FOCUS [Digital Campus](#) for students who are not on FOCUS campuses.

[FOCUS Alumni Relations](#) equips, encourages and inspires alumni to be agents of the New Evangelization. The Love Life initiative bolsters pro-life and purity efforts on college campuses while strengthening marriage and family formation and support. The Beauty Initiative within FOCUS encourages creativity in all its forms; among other projects, the team coordinated the [Awaken](#) contest for musicians, poets and artists to share work at SEEK2017 and SEEK2019.