



LA LUMIÈRE

Feb, 2002

Dan and May Workman
Serving with Campus Crusade
for Christ in Toulouse France

Celle-ci était la véritable lumière, celle qui, en venant dans le monde, éclaire tout être humain.

John 1:9

Un LET'S TALK ABOUT ART

Art is very important to the French culture, so we're using it as a means of discussion. We invited our friends to two art parties to talk on a deeper level. The subject was Van Gogh's *Starry Night*. It was very well received; one student enjoyed the discussion so much he thought we should meet once a month! Having a discussion centered on a painting brought great insight into the French mindset. One surprising belief is that beauty cannot exist outside of one's own interpretation. Nothing can possess beauty of itself. So, if beauty has no Creator, how do you think this might affect their belief in God?



On the back of the *Starry Night* copy we gave to each student was a quote. We'd heard that Van Gogh was a fan of Victor Hugo, so we included a powerful passage from Les Misérables to add to our discussion. Here's a taste of Hugo describing the Bishop in the story spending his nights gazing up at the star lit sky:

He was there alone, communing with himself, peaceful, adoring... moved amid the darkness by the visible splendor of the constellations and the invisible splendor of God...without seeking to comprehend the incomprehensible, he gazed upon it. He did not study God; he was dazzled by him.

Indeed there are remarkable similarities between the Bishop's starry night and Van Gogh's.

Trois LOOKING AHEAD

Seven upper Midwest campuses are officially partnered with our efforts in Toulouse. These campuses are committed to send students to France to aid and continue our work! We're already making plans for a summer project involving at least twenty students and staff. We're also expecting several with an interest in France to take a vision trip to Toulouse in March. This allows them to learn about French people, culture, and what it's like to sow the Gospel here. Hopefully they will return excited about what God is doing. If you'd be interested in spending a week in France, getting a closer look at ministry here, please let us know!

Quatre REFRESHING SPIRIT

Ever sat in a restaurant with an empty glass – really wishing you could have a drink of cold water? Living five months in France away from the fellowship we're used to dried us out, but thankfully we were able to attend a mid-year conference in Spain. There we were filled to the brim! Praising God in a room with 200 others Campus Crusade staff and hearing a guest speak straight from God's Word was a refreshing oasis in a spiritual desert.

Please pray...

- That the questions asked during our art party will stick in the minds of the students
- For the preparations for the vision trip and summer project
- That many would participate (we especially need guys)

The Lord's blessings to you!
Dan, May and Silas