



Ryan (left) and I (right) man a survey table which yields contacts for us and our students to follow up.

MAWLING STUDENTS

Lately, Ryan and I are in the process of “M.A.W.L.ing” two cadets: a sophomore cadet named Chris and a freshman named John. We hope these two young men will play a major role in the future of Valor (our official name at the Citadel). You might be wondering we would mawl anyone, let alone these men who are so strategic. MAWLing is simply a training process that is currently focused on how to share their faith, follow up a spiritually interested student from a survey table or our weekly large group meeting, and lead other cadets in Bible study. Finishing their training will not only enable us to reach more students but more importantly, help these young men become actual disciples who spiritually multiply into the lives of others.



Chris (right) shares his faith with a “Knob” (freshmen) while I assist (and take this covert photo).

MAWL stands for “Modeling, Assisting, Watching, and Leaving.” Ryan and I *model* a few crucial ministry skills and activities while Chris and John simply watch. The next step for them is to *assist* us as we lead the same ministry activity. As I write this, Chris has begun assisting me by leading parts of our Monday night Valor Bible study. Third is *watching*, which means I observe as the cadet leads the ministry activity. After each stage we give each other feedback: things we did well and things we could sharpen for the next time. Finally, once I think reached they’ve reached a level of competence with these activities, I *leave* them to own it. If successful, I’ve just added another ‘laborer’ to the harvest fields at the Citadel.



Citadel faculty member Dr. Preston speaks to cadets at Valor’s weekly meeting.

MAWLing follows a similar method Jesus used to develop His 12 disciples—those who would one day carry on His work in His absence. And though, unlike Jesus, we have no immediate plans to leave the Citadel ourselves, we are trusting God for a group of spiritually mature, humble, and teachable cadets who will give leadership to Valor. We believe students are capable of leading this ministry and leading it well. Reaching this point would in turn allow Ryan and me to continue MAWLing new cadets while starting spiritual movements in unreached pockets of campus. Please pray for Chris, John and future disciples to walk closely with the Lord and to grow in their vision to be used by Him to forever impact their campus and classmates!