On the Road Again: Tips for Commuter Students

College life as a commuter can be a unique experience with distinct opportunities, challenges, and needs. Here are some tips that can help you navigate the commuter experience.

- **Get Involved** – Learn the campus, meet the staff, and jump into activities, events, and ministries. Have coffee with your fellow students; eat your lunch in the student center; join student organizations and study groups. Get involved and stay involved. As a commuter, it can be tempting to parachute in for classes and helicopter out as soon as you’re dismissed. But we hope that you’ll plug into our vibrant campus life from day one so that we can share life together, serve one another, and sharpen each other throughout this short season of life God’s given us together. So even though you’ll have a daily commute and a full schedule, dive into the Boyce community. Don’t disengage. Get involved, be blessed, and be a blessing.

- **Go Deep in Relationships** – Living off-campus, you might be tempted to view yourself as an outsider to the community. But this is only true if you let it be true. So go out of your way to meet people. Ask questions and listen well. Spontaneously eat in the cafeteria. Walk the halls, visit the dorms, and pursue meaningful relationships. Follow up with the student who shared a prayer request in class. Go places when you’re invited. Jump into the small groups and prayer groups. Go deep in relationships, and you will be deeply rewarded.

- **Stay in Touch** – As a commuter, communication is key. We’ll give you timely blasts of information so you’ll always know what’s happening at Boyce. We’ll utilize all sorts of media to keep you informed. But communication is a two-way street, so you’ll need to do your part, too. Read your campus email, hit up the website, stop and scan the posters, and listen to the buzz around campus. Knowing is half the battle, so stay in touch.

- **Use Your Gifts** – You have God-given gifts, experiences, and desires. When you get here, start looking (right away!) for ways use them. We don’t want a single talent wasted or a single skill lying dormant. We’ll point you toward opportunities from the beginning, and if there isn’t a clear way for you to use your gifts, we’ll walk you through how to create one. New student organizations are always forming and our Student Council is always dreaming up new ways to enjoy fellowship, build memories, and reach out. So start thinking now about how to use your gifts at Boyce.

- **Love Your Neighbors** – As a commuter, you have the distinct opportunity to live next to unbelievers. We long for our Boyce commuters to be a gospel force in your respective communities. So set aside time, attend community events, throw block parties, babysit for families, barbecue with neighbors, and then open your mouth with the good news of Jesus Christ crucified and risen. Go out of your way to meet the people living next door, across the street, down the block, above and below. Show them what a redeemed and transformed college student looks like, and make Jesus glorious around your neighborhood, in your apartment complex, or with your host family.

- **Help Us Help You** – You have unique opportunities and needs; we have resources and the heart to help. Let’s work together. As you envision ideas or encounter concerns about commuter life, get in touch with our Student Life office at 502-897-4499 or boycestudentlife@spts.edu. We’re constantly dreaming about new ideas and ways to improve, and you can help. Whether you know of it or not, you’re full of great ideas along with new solutions for old challenges. When you think of one, let us know!

Looking forward to meeting you,

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