# **Burkey Beacon**

# **Cru Coaching Center**

May 25, 2020



Dear Friend,

We want to share a few stories with you so you can rejoice with us in how our God is at work. Our hearts have been encouraged lately.



#### The Power of Partnership

The President of Cru, Steve Douglass, highlights how working together as the Body of Christ powerfully helps to make the love of Christ known to the world:

"In one Asian country, Cru staff members, together with **partnering** churches and disciples, have launched a strategy of distributing 1 million face masks to reach 1 million people for Christ. They are working with a **ministry partner** who has direct contact with a company that produces face masks. Each mask is distributed with an evangelistic booklet and a note that says, "If you would like to have true peace, please visit these websites." The three websites have videos, messages, music, and articles to help point the recipients to Christ. One of the sites contains the "JESUS" film in the local language.

After one week, they had given away 700,000 face masks across the country. This initiative brought unexpected results. Since the government had ordered everyone to wear

face masks when they leave their homes, the local people saw that Christians were concerned for them by providing this necessity. Some people shed tears when they were approached, as they felt valued and cared for. Plus, this initiative has helped ease restrictions for the church planters and disciples involved, because the authorities saw that the Christians were helping the communities. To date, **850,000 facemasks and booklets** have been distributed through **805 churches in 63 provinces or cities** in this highly secure country." Jesus Film Project workers in East Asia report, "Over a million people in East Asia see the Jesus Film EVERY MONTH on social media during this pandemic." That's encouraging!

### What is one thing we can do better together than we could ever do alone?

Reaching every campus with the gospel would be one thing. The Lord burdened the hearts of leaders of different mission organizations with the desire to work together to see **every student** in the USA have the opportunity to hear the gospel, and **every campus** across the nation have a movement of believers that are sharing their faith and discipling others. They realized they couldn't do it alone. Of course they needed God and they needed each other to work together. They met together and the result of their discus-



sions and prayers is called Every



Campus, which is a coalition of over 100 **partnering** organizations, churches, and even businesses working together to make Christ known on every campus. The first step in their initiative was to see all 4,948 campuses in the USA prayer walked. Just this past week, they saw the last few campuses covered in prayer!

Why did these leaders decide to start this initiative by doing prayer walks? They explain it well on their website <a href="https://everycampus.com/">https://everycampus.com/</a> quoted here.

"The book of Acts tells us that when Jesus sent his disciples to proclaim the gospel, he commanded them to wait. So, they gathered and devoted themselves to prayer (Acts 1:3-14). This was critical for at least two reasons. First, he wanted them to carry out the mission not on their own power, but by the power of the Holy Spirit. Second, he didn't want their own agenda to guide them. As we sense God challenging us to see the gospel proclaimed on every campus, we have the same conviction. We are to start with prayer because we cannot bring about revival—only God can."





God answers the prayers of His people according to His will. Praise God, we are already seeing students, volunteers and faculty rising up, who want to make a difference on campuses for Christ. Our team, The Coaching Center, is an essential part of Cru to help reach every student alongside the many partners within Every Campus. In January, Adam made a trip to Alabama as a part of this Every Campus initiative. He and two from our team met with a student trusting God to lead a movement at Gadsden State Community College. Her name is Ariel. We surveyed students as they entered the dining hall. One multiple choice question was, "Who in your opinion is Jesus Christ." At one point, as an athletic student stood up and shouted to a friend at another table to check their answer as to who they thought Jesus was, several others chimed in to give their answers. It seemed like the whole dining hall was debating the correct answer to "Who is Jesus." That was a special moment. After a few days, when we had to leave, Ariel said that it was like saying goodbye to family. Ariel was able to start a Bible study from the contacts from the surveys.

Just as God is raising up partners like Ariel on campuses across America, Adam and I are depending on the Lord to provide **partners** for us who will enable us to launch ministries full-time, equipping volunteers to share their faith and disciple others. Thank you for **partnering** with us to help make Christ known to EVERY student on EVERY campus! There is so much more we can do working together than we could ever do alone!

## **Prayer Requests:**

- Please pray for Gadsden State students, and for our teammate, Megan Speller, who is coaching that campus. She's trusting God for a new leader since precious Ariel graduates this month.
- Please pray for the Lord to provide opportunities for Adam and me to meet potential new ministry partners during this time of social distancing. We need to grow our Ministry Partner Team so we can join our Coaching Center Team this Fall.



- ◆ Please pray for students to grow in their faith over the summer break. **Summer-Grow** is a project led by **Tessa**, one of the students our team coaches. Pray it will be consistently attended by students online all over the country, and for students to pursue the Lord, develop ministry skills, and spend time in His Word this summer.
- Praise God that all the Nigerian students at Alcorn State found host families to stay with when their campus closed. Two are staying with one of our teammates, Ronnie, in Florida this summer, one of which already found a job.:)

You are such a blessing to us! Thank you, Adam & Amy Burkey