

Burkey Beacon

Helping Reach the Campus

February 2, 2022



Dear Friend,

Every year, across the country, millions of college students graduate. Many have their sights set on what this world values most, and they make it their mission to pursue those things. *But what if these students were embarking on the mission of God? What if they were “on mission” to make the world more how God intended it to be, helping people everywhere be restored to a relationship with Jesus?*



That’s Cru’s mission: to see lifelong laborers for Christ raised up and sent to the world to proclaim the good news of Jesus. Winter Conference is one place where, time and again, we have seen students grasp a greater vision for their lives.



Jesus is... so I will...

This December, 968 students from Tennessee to Michigan gathered in Indianapolis for Winter Conference! We worshipped King Jesus together and were challenged by the Word of God as our speakers called us to a life more in line with the Scriptures. **Students were equipped to share the good news of Christ** as they were sent out to local communities to take steps of faith and initiate spiritual conversations. Through those that were sent out from the conference, **41 people who heard the gospel indicated decisions for Jesus!**

Above, students lined up to make a commitment to the Lord. We studied different truths about who Jesus is, for example: Alive, Worthy, Savior, Lord, Friend, etc. The last night students were challenged to personalize and apply something the Lord was teaching them by filling in the blanks “Jesus is _____ So I will _____.”

Here are a few comments about Winter Conference from college students:

“Before coming I had felt very distant from God, and I felt like I was becoming a lukewarm Christian. This renewed my faith!” -Faith, junior

“I literally became a Christian today!” -Nate, senior

“I am eager to go out & do what God has called me to.” -Ayana, soph.

Our job at the conference was to help students in the prayer room, which was open the whole conference and was a quiet place to pray alone or with someone, leave written prayer requests, and learn about prayer. What a joy and privilege it was to meet with and pray for these students requests and to help them learn how to develop a more meaningful prayer life. Following are a few requests from students we ask you to lift up to the Father with us.



"My battle with depression and negative self-talk...same for my boyfriend. For strength, courage, and the right scripture to help with his suicidal thoughts."

"Father, I thank you for the fulfillment that I have received from Winter Conf. Lord, I pray that you would lay your will for my life in my heart, and how you want me to share your Word with others. I also pray for contentment in the places that I am."

"This year has been one of the hardest for me & my family. Divorced parents, living in right or wrong, death, loss, hurt, anger, so much. It seems the world & the Devil are here to attack & I'm trying to be steadfast and strong. How much can one person carry? How heavy does this load have to be? When is a good season going to happen?"

"Pray that I would stop my sin of watching porn to fill my time. That I would find something more honoring to God to fill my time."

"I have been very divided internally, trying to worship both the world and God. Also, I struggle with a lot of doubt. I'm struggling to understand how to trust and hear God. Help me to choose God over Satan's temptation. I pray that I see the love and strength of our God."

"Pray that even when I can't feel or see God through the darkness, I will run to Him for hope."

"I've been really struggling with loving myself and comparing myself to other women. It's hard to see how I am beautifully created in the image of God when I can't see it in myself. This semester I drifted away from community because I had the mindset of, "if I don't even love myself, how can anybody else love me?"

Several requests broke our heart as they revealed some of the pain and struggle students these days are going through. Students can always use our prayers. Thank you so much.



We attended the conference with our son Nathan. He enjoyed participating and taking notes on talks and seminars, like how to transition to deeper conversations and understanding boundaries in friendships. His prayer request was ***"Please pray for me and my family. We are trying to start Cru at my high school."***

This weekend, **February 4th-6th**, there will be one more opportunity for students to experience the Winter Conference as Cru will be hosting one virtually. We have been busy coaching our students to host watch-parties on their campus and to use this weekend as an opportunity to gather together as a community and receive great Biblical content, motivation, and training on how God wants to use them to make Him known to those in their lives. Topics of our main sessions will be ***Knowing Jesus, Walking with Jesus, Going with Jesus, and Surrendering to Jesus.***

Please pray many students across the nation, and specifically at our campuses (Lake Erie College, Southwestern Michigan College, Indiana University Northwest, Monmouth College, and Western Carolina University) will gather others and make it a priority to be a part of this conference. May Jesus be made known and glorified and students' hearts and lives be changed because of how God works this weekend. Thank you for your prayers!

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PARTNERSHIP, Adam & Amy Burkey