Burkey Beacon

Helping Reach Students to go to the World November 18, 2026

Dear Friend,

In our coaching calls with student leaders we have shared **Psalm 145** and they often note how King David recalls wonderful attributes of God like His goodness, righteousness, compassion, and love. He recalls these attributes because he has experienced them in his own intimate walk with God. David says, "I will exalt you, my God and King; I will praise your name for ever and ever." He uses other verbs like **extol, commend, tell, speak, proclaim, celebrate, and joyfully sing** as he remembers who God is and what He has done for His people. We remind our leaders that **God has called us into a *relationship* with Him,** made accessible only through faith in Jesus' life, death, and resurrection for the payment of our sin. We want their first priority to be investing in their relationship with the Lord. As they experience His love, compassion, grace and forgiveness in their own lives and walk with Him, the work of the ministry (sharing their faith and discipling others) will be done **out of an overflow** of joy and dependence on Him! **They too will extol, commend, tell, speak, proclaim, celebrate and sing.** It is a natural response to our enjoyment of Him. Jesus said in John 15:5, "If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing". **Please pray** with us that the student leaders on the campuses we coach will keep God and time with Him as their #1 priority, even through the busyness of finishing up the semester and the demands of leading others.



It has been a joy this semester to work with **Amarion,** the first Intern raised up from one of our coached campuses. Part of Amarion's responsibility is to help a team of student leaders make an impact for Christ at Ferris State University in Big Rapids, Michigan. They have seen well over 40 students coming out to their weekly large group Bible study, with many attending the bi-monthly men's and women's Bible studies as well. They had 27 attend Fall Retreat and have seen a handful of students place their faith in Christ and many others deepening their faith and personal relationship with the Lord. Amarion recently shared this story with us:

"At the start of the year, Angelo filled out our interest survey at an event. One day I reached out to Angelo to see if he would be interested in meeting up on campus to share our stories and learn more about Cru. He said yes and we ended up meeting. We talked for a while and he shared his experience growing up in the faith and how college life sometimes challenges him in his walk with Christ. I was able to share the Gospel with Him, which He really appreciated because he didn't know you could have assurance of salvation through faith in Christ. He appreciates knowing scripture that explains the Gospel clearly and helps people understand salvation is a free gift of God through faith in Jesus as Savior and Lord. We now plan to meet regularly to go over other foundational truths so he will have a firm foundation on which to build His faith in Christ and hopefully impact others as well."

We launched a new ministry at **Concord University** this Fall. Three athletes have been leading Bible study there every week even with their busy schedules and God has raised up a core group of around 15 students,



some firm in their faith and other students who are new believers or still seeking what is true. One of our leaders, Gretchen, recently shared this story with us:

"One of the students who regularly attends Cru grew up attending church with his family. He knew the Bible stories, had gone to youth groups, attended church camps, and understood what it meant to be a Christian. For most of his life, faith was simply something that had always been part of his routine. Once he was at Concord, things changed; there was a new environment to navigate and new people to connect with. He began attending Cru to make friendships and find a Christian community. Through conversations, other students' testimonies, and Bible studies, he started asking deeper questions about what it meant to follow Jesus on a more personal level, rather than just doing what was expected in his Christian household. Over the past few months, he began to understand the importance of a personal relationship with Jesus and his faith grew deeper than ever before. I have been blessed to witness God's work in his life, and in many other students' lives this semester. I'm so thankful I said yes to helping start Cru on my campus!" -Gretchen from Concord University



This week we have 3 campuses taking a step of faith to train their group on how to share the Good News of Jesus using a tool called **"The Four"**. It is four symbols that help a person briefly share the 4 main points of the Gospel and then ask, "Would you be interested in hearing more?" If they are interested, our students can lead them through a fuller Gospel presentation. **Please pray** for the students at Penn State-Behrend, Ferris State, Ohio State University-Newark, and West Liberty University stepping out in faith to talk to people about Jesus. May the Lord give them boldness, lead them to students in whom He is already at work, and allow them to see God moving in the hearts of students as they make themselves available to Him.



Please Pray:

- That God would be the **#1 priority** for our students leaders and those they lead.
- **Praise God** - Three self-identifying "unbelievers" asked if they could attend Fall Retreat at Southwestern Michigan University. We said yes and they attended. One made a decision to accept Christ over the weekend! Pray for that seed of the Gospel to take root in His life.
- **The Four Outreaches** we mentioned earlier- for new people to get connected to Jesus and Cru
- **Cru Winter Conference Recruiting** - As parents we know how good it is to see your kids over winter break. But we are praying students would choose to devote 4 days of those 3 weeks to growing in faith by attending a Winter Conference. Typically in Indianapolis we get more than 1200 students and we have about 10 winter conference locations around the USA. **Please pray** our student leaders would lead by example and bring lots of new students with them. Ferris is trusting God for 20+
- **Holiday Outreaches** - Please pray students would trust the Lord to do some holiday themed outreaches. We use The Four outreach to get students used to talking to people about Jesus. May it become normal for them.

Thank you for your partnership with us!! *Adam & Amy Burkey*

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