

Caring for Cru Staff



Have you ever felt like Elijah as recorded in 1 Kings 19? After a great spiritual battle with the prophets of Baal, God's man runs away, fearful, tired, lonely and lacking purpose. The story tells how God met and cared for and revived the heart of His prophet.

During this last year and a half I think many of us have felt the tiredness and discouragement like Elijah felt. I know that we have experienced spiritual battle in our ministry sending new

missionaries, and many of our staff have faced difficult circumstances trying to reach students with the Gospel when they weren't able to go on campus.

To help meet these needs for refreshment and renewal, our National HR team met in person for a 5 day conference in Colorado and I (Steve) was glad to be part of it. We got to connect, refresh, hear from our leadership and plan out areas of special focus for this year's work serving our staff.

We spent a great time with Jesus and each other in the Rocky Mountains! In morning devotions we focused on ways the Lord replenishes our spirits and renews our minds. We said goodbye to some wonderful leaders and hello to new ones who joined our team. We encouraged each other and delved into meaningful conversations about our past year's experiences.

It was great to hear from some of our national leaders who reminded us to expect spiritual battle as we work to take the gospel to all the students in the US and the world. We looked at ways to help our staff through the complexities of our cultural settings and conflicts, and we worked on strategic planning where we evaluated critical needs among our staff. An important discussion focused on the placement of our staff in ministry roles that maximize their strengths and skills.

I'll continue to help our staff by making our job openings known internally and by giving our leaders data which helps them make sure that each staff is known and valued for their part in the ministry. Thank you so much for your prayers and investments in the furtherance of the Great Commission through our ministry caring for all our staff and interns! We so appreciate you!



We are delighted to announce that our son Ben and his wife Quinn have had a baby girl! Aira Yukie Clark was born September 17th at 5lbs 2oz and 18 inches long. She surprised us by arriving a month early, but we are so thankful that she is healthy and settling into their family! We are so happy for them and so glad to welcome our 4th grandchild!! We are planning a trip to CA in early November to see them and our partners and churches there.



PRAYER REQUESTS

1. Pray for wisdom in our work as we care for our staff and applicants.
2. Pray for special times with our young grandson Roman as Rochelle babysits once a week while his mom (Melissa) is continuing her classes for a degree in Christian counseling.
3. Pray for Andy and family who are moving to Orlando! God provided Andy with a job based in New York City which he can do remotely on the East Coast. They will begin their cross-country journey on Oct. 4th and will arrive here on Oct. 15 or 16th! PTL!
4. Pray for Ben and Quinn as they adjust to caring for little, precious Aira!
5. Pray for Josh as he balances classes at the University of Central Florida, being part of the Marching Knights band, and working at McDonald's.
6. God has provided a wonderful teacher sponsor for our Cru club at Avalon Middle School. Please pray for our Fall Festival Outreach on Oct. 15th. Pray for our planning, advertising, message of God's love and faithfulness, and for many students to come and check it out!

Thank you so much for your prayers! We pray that our God will meet your needs like He did for Elijah. Please let us know how we can pray for you and your loved ones.

*With love in Jesus,
Steve & Rochelle*