

## Innovation to Reach More Freshmen

Your faithful partnership continues to produce amazing results! As we work to send out new staff and interns with Cru and help the present staff members find good roles for their next stages, God prepares the way so they can get on the front lines to help fulfill the Great Commission in many ways.

At the end of October our global President, Dr. Stephen Douglass, went home to glory to be with Jesus after his battle with cancer. A humble servant leader, Steve was always rejoicing as Cru helped advance the Kingdom through innovation and partnerships.

One of those innovations for our U.S. Campus Ministry is the Finding More Freshmen online strategy that helped students find and meet staff on their campuses and invited them to attend fall retreats with special discounts. This year over 41,000 students met staff, and 7700 attended one of 119 fall retreats with this strategy. One Campus that hosted a Fall Retreat was Boise State, in Idaho. Here are some of the student comments:



*This was my first Cru retreat, and I enjoyed every minute of it. The people around me influenced me in several positive ways. The way they connect with God makes me want to create a stronger connection with Him as well.*

*I have to step out in faith. I have been praying a lot about my future and I got a lot of answers.*

*I want to establish and further understand my identity in*

*Christ so I can step out in faith and do all that God has asked me to do. This is my second year at fall retreat and I loved every moment of it. I am so grateful to have found Cru.*

*I need to step out in faith and stay out of my comfort zone to tell others about Jesus.*

Afterward, the father of a new freshman who attended wrote: *I just want to thank you and your whole BSU Cru team for investing in Nate. The Lord has used you guys to help him get plugged in to godly community and he is really thriving after an incredibly difficult year. Almost with tears in my eyes, I cannot thank you enough for making the effort for my son, leading in this amazing ministry, and following the call of Jesus to love others as you would yourself while fulfilling the Great Commission. Well done!!*

It's encouraging to see how God uses those we help send, and all the staff and students of Cru, to impact each generation of students with the good news of the Gospel. We are blessed by the creative ways God uses the staff we send as they step into God's Harvest.

Amid the economic uncertainty and threats of war going on around our world, God continues to pour out His Spirit as His people bring the gospel everywhere it is needed. We appreciate you and ask God to bless you with His peace and joy this Christmas!

*With love in Jesus,  
Steve & Rochelle*