

November 21, 2024

Dear Friend,

We are so glad for your partnership in prayer to see spiritual growth in disciples around the world as Cru staff and students share the good news of Jesus! It is wonderful to support all these efforts through sending new ones into the harvest.



A very typical step of growth for most students involved with Cru is going on a summer mission in the U.S. or internationally. Let me share a story that just happened in Japan this summer.

*“It was Leo and Abby’s second day at Kansai Gaidai University in Osaka, Japan, where they were enjoying the best three-dollar chicken rice bowl ever! Leo, one of Cru’s Osaka Summer Mission students, leaned over and said, “Hey, those students at the table beside us are speaking English.” He invited his teammate, Abby, to move tables with him.*

*Leo and Abby were about to have one of those divine appointments that only the Lord can orchestrate. As they talked, Abby was able to go through the Knowing God Personally booklet (a tool Cru uses to share the gospel) with Riko, one of the Japanese students. As they reached the “point of decision”, where the booklet shares a sample prayer of salvation, Riko excitedly looked over at Abby. “When can I pray this? I want what you have! It is different from anything I have seen before!”*

*As the summer mission progressed, Riko came to each event they held, always asking questions, pondering what she was learning, and gathering more information about the local church with whom the team partnered.*

*As Abby reflected upon the summer mission, she said, “Getting to see the ways the Lord worked in Riko’s life was one of the most impactful experiences I’ve ever had in ministry. I watched as the Lord intentionally orchestrated the perfect scenarios for life-changing conversation. This exemplified the heart of Christ to me in a whole new way. It showed me how the Lord is truly abounding in love and relentlessly pursuing our hearts.”*

God is still at work in tough places like Japan and loves to demonstrate His perfect timing and care to us like this. We trust you have seen Him show up for you at just the right time as well during your life. Rochelle and I rejoice to be part of this work by sending out the new Cru missionaries and helping our leaders know our staff well. We appreciate so much all your prayers and work of faith with us getting these new ones out where they need to go.

It’s encouraging to see more and more people groups having opportunities to hear the good news, and to see this youngest generation stepping into challenging places in the world with the Gospel. We believe your investment in God’s work through us is helping change the world one person at a time. May God’s blessings be upon you as you celebrate His glorious coming to rescue us this Christmas season.