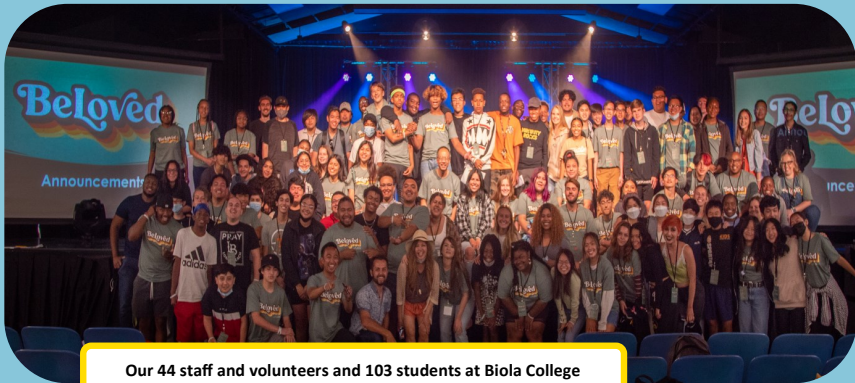




THE CARSON COLLECTIVE

A Ministry Update from the Month of June & July



Our 44 staff and volunteers and 103 students at Biola College

Getaway '21

Thank you for praying for our summer camp at Biola College! We saw Jesus move in so many incredible ways, that we needed twice the space to tell more of our stories!

Caleb felt that real men were strong, outgoing leaders. Being shy and the youngest child in the house, he didn't feel like any of the above. At the guys seminar, Brandt taught on "Biblical Masculinity". In that, Caleb learned that God cares about your relationship with him and the strength of your character! "I've never thought of myself as masculine before... but after hearing Brandt's talk, I realized that I am! That was so encouraging for me to realize! I was able to realize that being a man does not come from the way you are physically presented, but from the way you represent God in yourself."



Prayer Requests

- Pray for Caleb as he starts his sophomore year at FVHS! I would love to see him leading his campus in the coming months!
- Pray for Mark as he continues his journey of reconciliation with his church friends, family, and peers!

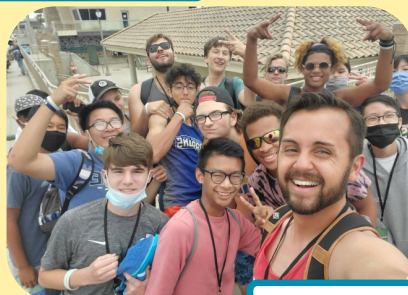
Mark, a Pastor's Kid

I grew up in a Christian home as my dad was a pastor. Even though I went to church every Sunday and Wednesday, I secretly I couldn't stand how strict the rules were and how much was expected of me. I often snuck out of service to avoid it! I also took out my anger on others by verbally abusing my friends and peers.

When Getaway came, I thought that I would fake it like I did church... Little did I know what God had in store! One of my friends shared his story from the stage. His story included some crazy things like being abandoned by his parents and physical abuse. Even through this, he still chose to love others and serve God! I broke. Even with having a great life and two parents that deeply love me, I wasn't utilizing the gifts God had given me. I had hurt so many people and I wanted to make that right! From my seat, I prayed to receive Jesus as my Lord and Savior. When I looked up, my parents were they praying over me. Since then, I've been contacting my friends and apologizing for the hurtful things that I've said. It's really painful and embarrassing, but so truly worth it!



Guys Bible Study at the park!



Guys Time!

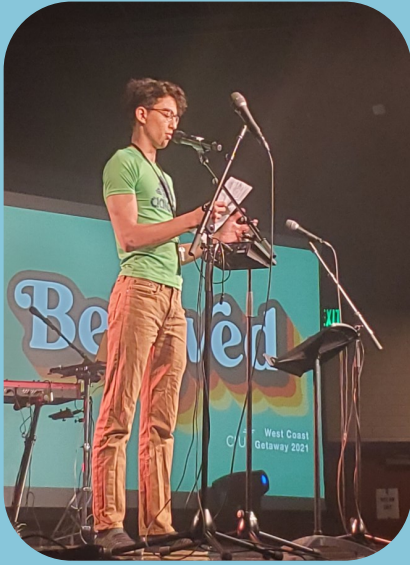



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Youssef Girgis



Youssef, invited to Cru by his old sister, was always a quiet but involved student. Now a senior, he felt called to share his testimony from the stage. Here is his story!

“I was born into an amazing Christian family in Egypt where I had all that I needed. The highlight of my year was my birthday as everyone came together to celebrate! Then my parents enrolled in the Egyptian lottery to win papers to move to America. They won. Before I knew it, I lost my home and was thrown into a foreign country. Struggling to find work, my dad took employment wherever he could. This led to us moving 8 times across 2 counties and two states... in one year. This, combined with my parents constantly fighting, destroyed my sense of stability and peace. One low moment was my 10th birthday. It was

my parents, our landlord, and a cake. The candles went out and the party was over. Missing my friends and family, I realized that I was truly alone and life felt meaningless.

Thankfully, it didn't end there! My sister and my parents soon got me involved in a local church as well as Cru. These both changed my life! I realized that God never left me, and that He LOVES me. I became active in attending meetings and conferences where I grew in my faith. After this, I met my friend Daniel through an online video game. He shared about how struggled to believe that his life mattered due to the conflict in his life such as poverty and his parents fighting. Having gone through a similar thing, I was excited to share my story and how God helped me through the darkest of times! Over an internet call, I was able to also share my faith and lead him in the prayer to receive Jesus! It was incredible to see that I am not too broken for God to use me!”



Sometimes you're photogenic,
... And sometimes you're Cayden

Prayer Requests

- Pray for Youssef. As we started going through his story, I quickly realized that he had mentally and emotionally repressed most of his life. Digging through it was a little painful for him, but he is putting in the hard work!
- Pray for those that we spoke to at Huntington. Pray that they would respond to how God is moving in their lives!
- Pray for Kevin, a student that we met on the beach from NorCal. He believes that a god exists, but struggles to believe that said God would actually love or care for him.

Saturday Evangelism



On Saturday, Jessica was in charge of sending 44 staff and 103 students to Huntington Beach to share the good news of Jesus! After setting up a booth for “Prayers and Popsicles” and another for testimonies, the police showed up. Someone had called them and reported us for giving free drinks away which requires a permit. Thankfully, Jessica quickly changed plans and sent out students in groups with the snacks! We approached 135 people, shared the Gospel with 25, and 11 said yes to pray to receive Jesus! Many students left with a joy and hunger to share more!



Andren's first 4th!



Brandt's parents flew from
TN to watch the kids!