

HALVORSEN MINISTRY UPDATE



WINTER CONFERENCE IS A GATHERING OF COLLEGE STUDENTS experiencing Jesus, growing together in our faith, and discovering our place in the mission of God.

While historically Winter Conference happens every year in multiple conference centers and ballrooms across the nation, this year it looked a bit different. On February 5 and 6, college students from Hawaii to Maine, from Florida to Alaska, gathered together for a special weekend in order to encounter Jesus.

Students connected virtually to one live national broadcast from their living room, dorm room, church building, parent's basement, or backyard. While it was a step into the unknown to host the conference like this, **God moved in powerful ways!**

6,292 students attended to understand and consider God's Character, God's Heart and God's Call. The speakers lifted our eyes to consider the beauty, mercy, and grace of Jesus. They helped us to see the urgency of sharing with those around us. And they challenged us to discover our place in the mission of God in proclaiming the gospel to others.

While each student who attended has a story to tell, here are just a few:

"I've had multiple friends on my heart that I've been praying for and desiring to share the gospel with. They're unbelievers... After attending the conference, I feel much more equipped and on-fire to share my faith and approach them in a conversation." —Kellen, University of Idaho freshman

After learning how to disciple and mentor others to multiply his spiritual impact, Zeke, a freshman at Asbury



University, challenged five Christian friends to grow in their faith together. They've already begun meeting to learn how they can share the good news of Jesus with others!

"Saturday night during one of the guest speaker's talks, I heard an overwhelming voice (the type that makes you bow your head in wonder, sending chills throughout your body). I heard God say "Go..." It's got something to do with me committing, not just my summer, but my life in service of the Great Commission. I have no earthly idea what that would look like, but I'm content with where God is leading despite the uncertainty." —Cade, University of Arkansas sophomore

We rejoice for the awesome ways God is at work in students' lives. **He is changing hearts and raising up lifelong laborers for the Kingdom of God.** Thank you so much for your partnership, your prayers, and your generosity that make that possible!



A NEW BELIEVER FROM HARVARD shares testimony at Winter Conference

One highlight for our Boston Cru team has been witnessing Susan*, student athlete and junior from Harvard, place her faith and trust in Jesus. At this recent virtual Winter Conference, Susan was part of a panel discussion where she shared her story of coming to faith in Christ.

"Before the pandemic, I always felt something was missing but I was doing a lot of the things that were suppose to make me happy and fulfilled- volunteering, eating healthy, exercising, socializing, studying, etc. I felt disconnected from myself and others, prevented from knowing and accepting love. Then the pandemic happened and I couldn't keep occupying myself. I had to confront a lot of negative emotions like anxiety and meaninglessness."

Susan checked out our Harvard Cru website and saw a testimony by Swim & Dive Captain, Cassandra. She reached out to our Cru staff, with no intentions of becoming a Christian, and got involved in a 4-week small group on the topic on Jesus & Anxiety. Susan was able to express a lot of her doubts and questions about Christianity and over the course of last semester, placed her faith in Jesus. She feels free to share her struggles and brokenness within the loving, grace-filled Cru community at Harvard that continues to point her to Jesus. Thanks for being part of her story!

*Name changed for privacy

PRAYER REQUESTS

- Pray for students who are struggling with depression, anxiety, and isolation during the pandemic.
- Pray for the freshmen who arrived on campus for the first time, who studied remotely their first semester, as they navigate campus life during the pandemic.
- Pray for wisdom as I coach senior Cru staff while they fundraise during COVID.