

HALVORSEN MINISTRY UPDATE



In mid-March, as campuses closed and city lockdowns spread, Cru canceled all in-person outreaches, events and gatherings. These changes are only compounded by the anticipated milestones many students will not experience. The sense of loss has been very real for staff and students.

Now I want you to know, brothers and sisters, that what has happened to me has actually served to advance the gospel. (Philippians 1:12)

And yet, because we live in a digital age, ministry amazingly continued. Our innovative staff has figured out ways to connect with students while sheltering in place:

- At George Washington University, Cru's Bridges Ministry connected with 17 new international students through a digital outreach day. God allowed them to talk with students they had never met before in the span of just an hour and a half!
- Many Cru movements hosted weekly meetings via Zoom. To continue to develop community, they used the breakout room feature for small group discussion. And to continue a sense of fun, they used virtual games like Kahoots.
- Tammy, Cru staff and chaplain at Harvard, had the unique opportunity to help students move toward Jesus as they process the pain of sports seasons cut short, canceled graduation ceremonies and abrupt good-byes.

Cru also launched national initiatives to help the body of Christ during this crisis:

- The campus ministry has a new digital ministry toolkit (cru.org/mycampus/toolkit) which includes resources for continuing in evangelism and discipleship while social distancing.
- Cru's family ministry, Family Life (<https://www.familylife.com/notcanceled-2/>), has been working to provide resources for families navigating this new Covid-19 normal because #HomeIsntCanceled.

I know this is a difficult time, not only with Covid but now also great racial tensions overwhelming our nation. We are grieved and we care about you. If there is any way we can be praying for you, please let me know.