



A big life change in November.

After many months of praying, seeking discernment from the Lord, and processing with trusted friends, we have big news: as of November, **Jenn will be transitioning to part-time ministry and I (Aaron) will be transitioning out of full-time ministry into software engineering.** While I've been interviewing for jobs for a few months, the start date for the job and eventual offer came quickly. I will be joining Root Robotics as a software engineer. Root is a startup in Boston developing software and robots to help kids all around the world learn how to code. This is a great fit for me! I love seeing where the Lord is leading me next and trusting him that he has great things in store.

More than any other text in scripture, Matthew 20:25-28 has inspired and defined my ministry calling. This is how I wish to remember my time as a missionary — as a servant of Christ:

Jesus called them together and said, ...“whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first must be your slave— just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”

In fact, when I started serving 9 years ago, this verse was central to my calling. It helped me lay down many other ambitions and priorities to pursue God's priorities and what I understood as my roll in those priorities. So in light of that, may Christ receive all the glory for the work WE have partnered together to do! Together we have seen God's kingdom impacted. I have found much joy in walking with Jesus as a missionary and in helping others find their enjoyment in Christ.

I have had the privilege of serving students at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Hudson Valley Community College, Boston University, Emerson College, and Massachusetts Institute of Technology and shared my faith on a dozen more campuses. Some of Jenn and my fondest memories come from our years leading the Wildwood Summer Mission, where we were able to help thousands of international students hear the Gospel, and disciple future church leaders towards “Treasuring Jesus and Making Him Known.”

One of my favorite stories of a changed life is from Ali, a student we met years ago. It reminds me of the great impact Christ makes in the lives of our students:

“Rather than relying on God and having my faith as a foundation, I took life into my own hands. I went down a dark path and disregarded all I believed in and ignored every invitation that God provided. In college I continued my turbulent life, where by God’s grace I met Aaron in the student center. I was waiting for a class when Aaron invited me to participate in a spiritual survey using photographs to describe my life and beliefs; it was through the discussion that followed, that I started listening to God again... I made a renewed commitment to God, and began helping bring others to Christ and into the Cru community. Looking back I know the people I came into contact with in Cru don’t have any idea the level of impact they made on me. They showed me what healthy, Christ-centered friendships look like, and gave me an opportunity to have a true personal story of redemption.”

Praise God for Ali and every story I wish we had space in this letter to tell.

Because I will be receiving a three month severance and **Jenn will continue to work part-time with Cru, we would love if you would continue to give your regular gifts so that Jenn can continue to work for Cru.** Any gifts received each month above and beyond our needs, we will be used to help on-board new, energetic and passionate, ethnic minority staff in Boston. As we dream of how we want to continue to further the Gospel in Boston it’s through mobilizing these next generation leaders. That money will help those that are called by the Lord, but historically, have been unable to raise the support they need to serve in full-time ministry. If you choose to continue your support, you will be hearing regularly from Jenn and stories from these ethnic minority staff! Two of them, Mary and Rose, Jenn will write about next month.

Thankfully, as our family looks to make this big transition, I am able to receive three months of severance from Cru. If you desire to stop giving though, I want to provide you with helpful instructions of how to do that. Please let us know your desire. We have truly been thankful for your support these last eight years, no matter your decision!

May the love of Christ be with you!

Aaron & Jenn