

HALVORSEN MINISTRY UPDATE



Bo and Taylor Robles, new Cru staff

Two weeks ago I entered my first conversation with Bo and Taylor Robles as their fundraising coach. When I first heard my assignment of coaching this former Arizona State University intern couple before they head to East Asia as missionaries, I was not aware that I already knew Taylor. Her last name had changed since I knew her! To my surprise, she was the “Taylor” who was on the Wildwood Summer Mission project that Aaron and I staffed five years ago. She was a brand new Christian at that time. Wow, how the Lord has grown her heart to lead her and her husband, Bo, to be on mission for Him! Listen to how God changed both Taylor and Bo’s life during their time at college:

Taylor: “Growing up, I was not raised in a Christian home. I knew very little about God actually. In middle school, I met my best friend though, Maggie, who was from a Christian home. Her family was my first example of what a Christ-centered family looked like, and over the years I grew to really love and trust them as I watched how differently they approached life. In high school, my best friend’s older sister was involved in this thing called ‘Cru.’ So when Maggie and I finally came to Arizona State University as freshmen, her older sister basically forced us into going with her during the first week of school! How grateful I am now for her introducing me to this unbelievable community.... I remember being shocked that Christians were ‘normal’ and could have a lot of fun. I was impressed that students were there because they wanted to be there and not because their parents were forcing them to go to youth group. I was most surprised though by how genuine and real these people were... [A few weeks later] I heard the Gospel for the first time and I chose to surrender my life to Jesus.”

Bo: “I grew up in a Christian home [but eventually decided to] to run away from God and do ‘my own thing.’... I would often feel convicted and knew I needed God, but didn’t have people influencing me or pushing me towards Him, in fact the only people I had were driving me further away. That changed when my brother invited me to his Cru bible study and introduced me to some of his friends. While I was apprehensive, I really didn’t have any friends in college yet so went simply because I was bored. That first night I remember I was shocked at how normal these Christians seemed and how real they were with their struggles and their love for Jesus. They also made me feel loved and cared for, I feel like within minutes they had cared more for me than what my high school friends couldn’t do in years...I decided that I was going to run towards Jesus.”

After Taylor was with us at the Wildwood Summer Mission, she spent two summers with Cru on mission in East Asia, as did Bo. Their hearts broke, Bo describes: “When I went, I was deeply troubled by the dry spiritual climate in this country. Students had no idea who Jesus was and this gift that God offers them. These students didn’t know that they could have a personal relationship with him and that he even loves them.... [I] came back to the states more motivated to reach people than I ever have before.”

Please pray for Taylor and Bo as they raise the funds they need for the mission God has called them to. Please also pray for wisdom as I lead and shepherd them during this process.

Jenn Halvorsen / 309 E Street #26, Boston, MA 02127/ jennifer.halvorsen@cru.org