

HALVORSEN MINISTRY UPDATE



Ryan and Lauren Marshall back with students from Boston's "Fenway Hub" of college campuses. Their team is has scope of 13 campuses, including Boston University, Northeastern University, Wentworth Institute of Technology (WIT), and Simmons University.

Just about the time I sent my last letter, Boston's newest Cru staff - Lauren and Ryan Marshall - reached their financial support raising goal to report to campus for full-time ministry. These two have been such a joy for me to coach the past 8 months, during their season of ministry partner development, that I could not help but have mixed emotions when they reached 100%! I am very thankful that they are local so we can still easily meet up.

Lauren and Ryan have been in quite a growth process, like all new missionaries. When God is leading new staff through their support raising, He not only is forming their team of partners behind them but He is forming them spiritually and mentally for their long-term ministry on campus. Staff like Lauren and Ryan have to grow in initiating with others, stay personally organized, and remain motivated in doing hard tasks while keeping their own schedules, all while depending on the Lord for the wisdom, endurance, and outcomes. They have to work hard but also keep in step with the Spirit, leaning into and resting in the promises of God, as much is out of their control - which will also be true when doing ministry on campus.

Lauren became a Christian as a student in Boston at Bentley University and Ryan grew up as a Cru missionary kid. Both interned with Cru during the pandemic and raised support to join long-term Cru staff during quite uncertain times. They see God's calling on their lives and so clearly have a heart for college student to hear and know the Gospel. So they rose to the challenge of depending on the Lord while they did their part and took great steps of faith to raise their support team, even when the journey had surprising and challenging twists. I greatly enjoyed shepherding and coaching them through it.

Here is an excerpt from their letter when they finished and a quick video too (scan QR with your phone). Pray for them as they minister in the Middle East this next month and return to Boston colleges in the Fall.

"We are finally done!! This season has come with so many trials and blessings that we never could have predicted. From funerals to medical issues and hospital visits to being blessed with amazing community and the birth of our nephew, the past 8 months have been a humbling and sweet time.

"We have been reminded that God is totally in control and is teaching us things through every experience. It has honestly been so hard, but we are at this incredible place right now where we are unified with each other, pursuing the Lord separately and together, and so so so excited to share God's love, grace, and truth with the students and people of Boston. We are really grateful for His timing, even though it has been much different than ours!

"Thank you so much for being a huge part in our story and in our ministry, and we are so excited to continue to do this ministry with you! Thank you so much, we could not do this without you! We are so grateful for you!

"This [picture below] was [from] our last meeting with our support coach Jenn where we finalized everything and told our team that we were finally ready to start! Jenn has been such a blessing in so many ways over these past many months!"

[Link to their video:](#)



Just as Lauren and Ryan said in their video to their partners, I also say to you: I am so thankful for you, my ministry partners, and I could not do this without you... for sure! Thank you for helping me equip the next generation of Cru missionaries to be sent out to college campuses in New England, NY, and NJ.