

ALOHA KE AKUA

"God is Love" - Welcome to the Family
August 2021

BUILDING SPIRITUAL MOVEMENTS EVERYWHERE SO THAT EVERYONE KNOWS SOMEONE WHO TRULY FOLLOWS JESUS

Due to the nature of switching to high school ministry and working with minors, please do not share these stories/photos without my consent.



"Welcome to the Family!" I showed up to my first high school ministry event at the end of August and this is what I was greeted with by two former Cru High students. The love and welcome I felt from these two girls was so warming. I've been on staff now for over 12 years now and *they* were welcoming me! What a difference that made. I sat down with the two of them and started to just ask about their stories and how they got connected with Cru High. They both shared openly and vulnerably about their stories of hurt, abandonment, loss, redemption, hope, and now freedom.

This is what they shared: "Cru has helped me big time. Growing up I was dealing with a lot of anger, depression, and suicidal thoughts. The minute I found Cru, I found spiritual healing and I've learned to surrender all my pain and live for God." The other shared, "I ended going to Cru getaway with a lot of baggage and weight and the speaker simply invited us to surrender everything to God and I did. I felt all the anger and sadness lift as I wept and as feelings of peace overcame me. Cru has changed my life big time. Where I grew up dealing with a lot of anger, depression, and loneliness, Cru has become family."

These two are now volunteering with Cru High and joining our staff meetings. It's been so sweet to spend time with them, pray with them, and continue to see them grow in their own walks with the Lord. They both have such a heart and zeal to reach other high school students with the same love and welcome they received.

The bottom two photos are from our first club rush at Garden Grove High School. It's been a long time since being on campus doing a club rush. We passed out 10 boxes of pizza and 8 dozen donuts to over 130 high school students. Sometimes, I wonder what I signed up for and I'm not sure what I entirely got into BUT I know that each one of these kids has a story and right now, all I can do is pray. Would you join me and pray for favor as we step onto these campuses? Would you pray as each district, city, and county has different Covid protocol and that we would be able to get on to these high schools to start club. I'm ready to meet these students and say... "**Welcome to the family!**"

I'll be getting back into my monthly routine of sending out newsletters and couldn't be more excited. If you'd like to give a special gift, increase your monthly giving, or start giving monthly, please click the ministry partner giving link. I am so thankful for your faithfulness and prayers especially in this last year!

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