

SUMMER OF SENDING

How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news: ROMANS 10:15

As we mentioned before the summer, we had the opportunity to lead our regions' International Summer Mission Briefings and De-briefings. Basically, we have the teams come for training, vision and coaching prior to leaving overseas. Then, after returning to the U.S., they come back for a few days to process their experience so that it isn't just a summer that goes on the shelf so to speak. But, ***the summer becomes an experience they can use to invest in others back at school or wherever God takes them.***

This summer, we had 18 teams with a little over 250 participants going to 10 countries! So epic. Wendy and I had different roles to play during the summer. While we both gave overall leadership to the 5 conferences; Wendy focused on leading and coaching the staff who were there along with doing some teaching, while I was doing operations [lots and lots of details...], teaching and emceeing the meetings.



A few highlights include, seeing the team leaders serve their teams by washing the feet of each of their students going. It was powerful evening and a great reminder that they are clean because of Christ and will be going overseas to share, serve and love others as Christ loves them.

Another highlight was sharing leadership with a former student named Laura. She is now on staff but we met her when she started UCSB about 12 years ago. She came with us on her first mission trip when we led the Rome team, she then went to Australia as a student, then spent 2 years in Australia after graduating, and joined staff about 5 years ago. To see what God has done in her little life and what a leader she is made it such a special summer...a true privilege.



Lastly, a highlight was having teams write the names of people they had talked to about spirituality or had seen make a decision for Christ on paper stars. We then hung the stars in the room of our meeting. To see the hundreds of stars was moving, thinking that 2000 years ago Christ came to help us know what it means to have a relationship with God. Then his followers took that message to the



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four corners of the world, where at some point Christ was shared with the people in the room. Then they, through faith steps and boldness, took the message to people in 10 different countries who might not normally have an opportunity to hear about Christ. Then, to see those names on the stars...man, it was great!

Overall, the 18 teams have shared with over 900 people and have seen 168 people pray to start a relationship with Christ. So amazing! Thank you so much for your faithfulness to pray.

—The other portion of our summer was attending the bi-annual staff conference in Ft. Collins, CO. It is always an encouraging and challenging time. This year was especially welcome to Wendy and I as Francis Chan, a pastor, speaker and author spoke from his heart to remind us, not only as staff, but people of God, to essentially WAKE UP. Stop living a mere existence...living like zombies, but to embrace our calling and go after it passionately. If you email us at our address below, I will [at least I should unless I'm having technical issues] send you a link to his 2 messages that you can listen to.

The other big news at this conference was that after 2 years of prayer and research, it was determined that it was indeed the time to change the name of Campus Crusade for Christ after 60 years to better reflect our ministry and to create a better dialogue with people who don't yet know Christ. The new name if you haven't heard yet is Cru. There were numerous things shared with us regarding the name change and again, if you email us, we can send you some links to great articles and how other ministries and pastors like John Piper have responded to the change. The bottom line for us, which we have experienced regularly on campus, is that many people are open to have a spiritual conversation, but often [and CCC's survey of a few thousand people confirmed it] when people hear who is doing the survey, they would then respond negatively to taking the survey [20% indicated this]. **It wasn't that the Gospel or Christ was the issue, but our name was getting in the way of even having conversations. In branding, apparently a 2% negative response to a name or brand is considered horrible. For Campus Crusade for Christ, the number was 20% negative reaction to our name.** The time had come. **And to be clear, the mission hasn't changed or wavered.**

Wendy and I would love to talk to any of you that have questions, so don't hesitate to call us! We are also excited about the start of the new year and can't believe our kids are getting so big...and Malia is starting Jr. High! Goodness.

There is also still the opportunity to give towards our summer if you meant to do so. **Thanks so much for joining us in reaching 10 countries this summer!**

In His grip,

Kyle, Wendy, Malia, Carter & Avery