



OCTOBER 2020

“In our efforts to pray it is easy for us to be defeated right at the outset because we have been taught that everything in the universe is already set, and so things cannot be changed. And if things cannot be changed why pray? We may gloomily feel this way, but the Bible does not teach that. The Bible prayers prayed as if their prayers could and would make an objective difference... We are working with God to determine the future!”

I (Clay) read this line in Celebration of Discipline, a book that we are reading as a local movement. I was immediately convicted by the way I had been praying. I felt as though my prayers had little impact on actual outcomes in the world, especially since the COVID crisis began. At a heart level, it was clear that I had been struggling to believe the Lord changes outcomes through intercessory prayer.

In spite of all that has felt hard due to COVID, the Lord has heard my prayers, the prayers of our team, and the prayers of our students. We have so much to praise God for as a ministry here in Southeast Ohio. The number of students we have been able to reach collectively is smaller, but there is still so much to thank God for!

- Due to a lack of organized campus activities and cancellation of fall sports programs, our team’s ministry has seen significant growth at Marietta, with as many as 40 students attending a bible study!
- Overall, as a team we are connecting regularly with around 200 students and faculty on all of our campuses.
- I’ve had the privilege of leading an action group with students who are home over Zoom, coaching a volunteer with our ministry, and engaging in discipleship with three men (two in-person).
- We are able to safely have a one day Fall Conference on Saturday, October 17 and already have 50 students registered!
- No one on our team has gotten ill from COVID and none of our students have become severely ill from the virus.
- Students have been able to share testimonies through our new Cru at Ohio University podcast! You can download and listen on Google Podcasts, Apple Podcasts, or Spotify by going to our website at cruatou.org.

Those are just a few of the many ways that God is at work. Thank you for being a part of this ministry with us!

Yours in Christ,

Clay + Emily



Wes and I enjoying some hot coffee 6 feet apart, outside behind a dorm for Discipleship (mentoring). COVID has made for some interesting ministry lately!

FAMILY UPDATE

As you can imagine, we've been very busy adjusting to life with two children. We are feeling quite blessed, and quite tired! Judah is a wonderful, healthy baby who is proving to be quite calm and with a happy disposition. Please enjoy these photos!



PRAISE + PRAYER REQUESTS

- Praise God for a healthy baby and all the wonderful gifts that are a part of being a family.
- Pray for us as we adjust to being a family of four.
- Pray for our continued ministry - for creativity and inspiration to keep doing new things, for God's blessing that leads to success, for safety from the virus, and provision of the spiritual, financial, and

physical things we need to continue.