

# Clay & Emily Selway

SERVING WITH CRU IN SOUTHEAST OHIO

November 30, 2018

## Thankful

*We couldn't do this without you.*

This phrase has been repeated so often, and with so little thought, it has become nearly meaningless. It is used as a way to say "Thanks for your help!", but so often it is said in situations in which we know they probably *could* have done it without us, but it was just easier not to.

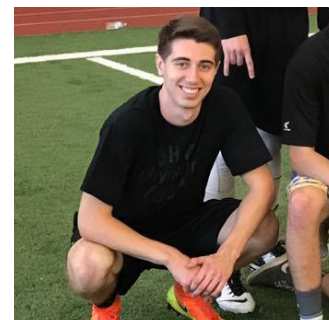
But when we say this to you, we mean it in a very literal sense. As we enter into a season traditionally focused around thankfulness and gratitude, we are struck once again by how much we truly do need you. Honestly, without you, we would not be here doing the work the Lord has called us to. We would not be meeting with students, sharing the gospel with them, and seeing them sent out equipped to bring the love of Jesus to a desperate world.

Your partnership with us is vital and life giving. Of course, there are the tangible, financial partnerships that keep us going in that sense. But even more than that, we rely on your care, friendship, and prayer. This calling is emotionally intense and often spiritually fraught. On bad days, it can seem pointless or hopeless to continue reaching out to students. But, I think the Lord knows this - and this is usually the exact moment one of our ministry partners reaches out with a phone call, a text, a card - and reminds us of the force behind us, continually praying and laboring *with* us. In those moments, the feeling of onliness dissipates and is replaced with a deep sense of gratitude.

With that said, we wanted to show you how your partnership with us has been bearing fruits in the lives of our students. We asked them what they were thankful to the Lord for, and their responses made evident just how much the Lord has been using us (and thus, YOU) to change their lives. Here are just a few -



"I'm thankful for God's provision and forgiveness" - Josh



"I'm thankful for God's persistence"- Ryan



"I'm thankful that he's given me more of a heart for the nations and a greater delight in Him." - Trey

*'Til the Whole World Knows,  
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# Family Update & Prayer Requests

Elliott, as you can tell from the following photos, is still gaining weight like a little champ. He greatly enjoyed his first Thanksgiving, as it involved food and anything that involves food is something Elliott enjoys. We also got to take him uptown to Athen's annual tree lighting ceremony and he was more confused than enthralled, but we'll take it.



Amazon carries everything these days, right?



## Prayer Requests

- For our students as they return home over winter break. Many of them are returning to broken families and spiritually dry places. They face various challenges to their mental health and their faith. Please pray that they would stay strong in the Lord, feel loved and encouraged by us even as we're far away, and that they would experience rest.
- For Cru's upcoming Winter Conference (Dec 28-31st). Pray especially for students to sign up to attend - these last few weeks are crucial for students' decision making.
- For our family. Emily's grandma's health is improving and we hope to be able to spend Christmas with her. Clay's dad is still in quite poor health and we are worried about him. Please pray for both of them.
- For our own relationships with God. It's been a challenging season taking care of a young child, doing ministry, taking care of our home, and caring for our family members as health issues have arisen.