

Fort Collins // CO

"If Jesus bled, then I can sweat!" James White, a pastor and one of our main speakers for our Cru19 biennial conference shouted this out when a fellow black leader from Cru gave him a towel for all the sweat dripping from his face while he preached. He went on to say, "the cross destroys our biases.....we can come together because it took death to bring us together". Powerful words & scripture spoken from him and many other influential speakers pierced the ears of not only 5,000+ Cru staff in the room but especially into our heart and souls.



Speaker, James White

Embracing our Body in love.

Together in Worship

We have both been on staff with Cru for 17 years. Many of the leaders I've (Tricia) worked with I have respected and have respected me - however, there often has been a missing piece of feeling understood and known. My Chinese and Indian heritage which is so deeply engrained in me has felt lost in the sea of the majority culture.

So fast forward to attending this summer's conference, I was surprised - shocked really - when I saw for the first time two black men put on the stage to speak back to back. I saw people of color coming together to teach seminars and be in community. I saw being ONE together not only being some new "theme" Cru conjured up, but it reminded us that it is the very heart of God. Our diversity is beautiful and when we truly come to know and learn from one another we can BE the good news to all those around us.

The Lord is giving me a heart to learn and to advocate by graciously giving me an opportunity to work within our role to help People of Color who are being sent to the world be represented, advocated for and ministered to. I've been asked to help develop training that will impact their overseas teams and help us move towards one another as our culture and faith intersects. I'm so grateful I can be that person for people like Des (see pic) who has lived in Central Asia for 5+ years be sent to Colorado and be loved while feeling understood and appreciated in her ethnic identity.



Des & Tricia at Women of Color Luncheon



Annie & Dylan, long-term staff serving in the Middle East

Naperville // IL

As Nich & I are in Chicago (August 11-20) preparing our interns and long-term staff to head overseas, please come alongside us praying for us to effectively coach and especially as I engage with People of Color at this briefing to be known, loved and sent in the beautiful way they were created! One day every tongue, tribe, and nation will worship in heaven in all the beautiful cultures He's created us to live out!

Much love, NICH & THICLA



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