



THE CARSON COLLECTIVE

A February Update from the Carsons!

Gospel Fluency

Before our Bible study in Garden Grove, David, Daniel, and I noticed two kids playing basketball nearby. We invited them to play Soularium, a picture-based tool for sharing the Gospel, in exchange for free pizza. Quang spoke broken English and Phuc was still learning, but thankfully, Daniel is fluent in Vietnamese! They said yes and we sat down to share. We quickly found out that these boys had just moved from Vietnam and knew nothing about Jesus. They shared that they both felt lonely in this new country and missed their home. They also shared that they were struggling to know what it means to be a man.



Daniel then showed his Vietnamese bracelet that explained the Gospel in four simple symbols. For the first time, Phuc and Quang heard about Jesus IN THEIR OWN LANGUAGE! They left with many different questions to think about, but asked to have another Bible study so that they could learn more! Pray for us as we continue to follow up with these two young men!



Prayer Requests

- Pray for Quang and Phuc. We have had two Bible studies now and look forward to what God will reveal in their lives!
- Pray for more volunteers at our campuses! As a team, we now work 14 public schools from Cabrillo, to Warren, to Estancia. Maybe the Lord is asking you to come and see what He is doing! The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few, therefore PRAY!



Introducing the Grove team!

We've witnessed the Lord's transformative work at Garden Grove, and it's time to meet the incredible team behind it all! First, meet Jihye, a former missionary in Kazakhstan and to Korean students in New York. Now, she mentors our girls at Garden Grove High and Fountain Valley. Then there's Daniel. After battling loneliness, he found a loving Christian family in Cru in 2016. Following graduation, he volunteered for two years and is now in his first year of internship, connecting students to that same loving community.

Arly, our former student co-president at Garden Grove High, struggled to find answers in church but discovered them in Cru, where she now helps others navigate their questions. She is also raising support to go on our mission trip to Panama in July! Lastly, there's David Guerrero, whose junior year introduction to Cru ignited a journey of faith, leading him and his parents in the prayer to receive Christ! Now with a passion for church history and Bible rebinding, he volunteers with us weekly! Without this team, we wouldn't be able to reach the students who come. If you're open to joining us on campus to help, please give me a call! There are many students yearning for connection, and your involvement could make a significant difference!



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A March Update from the Carsons!

Christ through Connections

You might remember a story from Diego back in September where he prayed to receive Christ at our house. That same night, something sparked a transformation in his friend Charles as well! Charles related to Diego's feeling of loneliness at home, and he also struggled with depression. Seeing the change in his friend's lives, he chose to attend our Wednesday Bible studies because he wanted to learn about God.

One week, the three of us meet up talk about their transition out of high school and into college. Knowing that Charles wasn't a Christian yet, I asked him if he was ready to make that decision today! He responded, *"Ya, I think I'm ready. I used to have trouble getting out of bed and leaving the house, but my days feel so much better when I have church. He has made my life better. I want to make sure that before I go to college, that I have God as the priority in my life!"* At a coffee shop near his school, Diego got to see his friend receive Jesus! Excited about his decision, Charles connected with the Cru ministry at Texas Tech as he was visiting the campus the following week! Please pray for these guys as they seek to follow Jesus in college!



Prayer Requests

- Pray for Charles, Diego, and the rest of their friend group as they will be splitting up to go to different colleges. Pray that the Lord would provide new, Godly community.
- Pray for Grove. The Lord is doing something very special at this campus. It seems like every week we are meeting a new student, someone prays to receive Christ,



Spiritual Multiplication

If you recall our October newsletter, you'll remember our student Daniel, who started our Bible study at Garden Grove. By December, we saw his friend James pray to receive Christ. In January, we had our largest group from Grove come to Fastbreak! This March, Daniel gave me a call and shared that he wanted to have a Bible study with the entire Frosh volleyball team during Spring

break. I didn't think that high school boys would want to come on their break, but I was wrong. Thirteen students came to our study. Over the card game Solarium, they all shared their stories: their hopes, dreams, thoughts about God, truth, and more.

Sadly, with season starting, they weren't able to join the Bible study after the break... until they realized that they all have an open 6th period! We are now meeting weekly around their sports schedule and it's been great. It's so refreshing to see students experience Bible stories for the FIRST TIME! They are sitting on the edge of their seats, eager to learn what happens next. Their current favorite story is from John 2:13-17. They love seeing that Jesus is passionate about creating space for all people to love and worship King Jesus!

