Christina Eads 3218 Alta Vista Dr. Fallbrook, CA 92028



Japan Campus Crusade for Christ (Cru) christina.eads@gmail.com

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Dear Friends,

I now have the joy of working with a handful of students from across the States to virtually join the Cru staff team and student leadership in Perth, Australia. From August 3rd-22nd we'll be having a digital summer mission trip. I'm amazed at how technology allows us to connect and get to know one another as a team!



The Australian staff have already been delightful to work with and will brief us on Aussie culture and school norms at the start of our mission. While it's not the same as meeting the Australian team in person and doing ministry side by side, this should still be a great experience for my team. Some of them are passionate about serving the Lord as pastors or missionaries after graduating college. They all have a passion to share the gospel and are willing to seek opportunities to do so from home (since they can't fly around the world this year.)

Traditionally, summer mission teams to Australia have done a considerable amount of reaching out to international students. The staff there shared that while COVID has limited the influx of new foreign exchange students, there are indeed continuing students. Many of these students studying abroad to Perth come from China, India, and Africa. My team is excited at the possibility of building relationships through helping these international students practice English over video chat.

We will also be seeking opportunities to share personal testimonies of faith and the gospel of Jesus Christ in both real time and through social media platforms. One digital strategy that has seen success around the world is a short film called "Falling Plates." I've seen students become intrigued by this film in Japan. It's a four minute film that inspires thought about our source of true life and the price that Christ paid for us. Showing this film to students can open up conversation about deeper topics and in many cases can transition naturally into fully sharing the gospel.

While we can't sit directly across from students in Australia this summer, we can use many tools such as short videos to enter into meaningful conversations. The students are eager to do whatever they can to help others know Jesus. We will also try to connect any students that we can to the staff and students in Perth so they can continue to learn and grow in Christ throughout the semester.

I have been praying for at least one student to get genuinely connected to the body of Christ with the team in Perth. Please pray that my team will be a blessing to the team in there. Please also pray for guidance, encouragement, and spiritual growth for the students I'll be leading. Thank you for praying for the nations!

In Christ,

Christina

Please join me in praying for~

- Our digital summer mission to Perth, Australia (August 3rd-22nd)
- The four new staff in Japan who are faithfully building their team of financial and prayer ministry partners
- At least 20 freshman from each four year university in San Diego to become involved in Cru