

Change Boston & Beyond

Brian & Malisa Ellis – Serving with Cru

March 29, 2026



Kintsugi - Beauty & Brokenness

Tomorrow night, we're hosting a Kintsugi workshop as an outreach. Student and their friends will have a chance to take pieces of broken pottery and repair them with gold. This form of Japanese art highlights the brokenness of an object while making it both stronger and more beautiful.

When I was hosting the night last year, I started by holding up a ceramic teacup. "This object was broken. When it is sealed together and remade with gold the cracks and scars are not hidden but highlighted." I told a group of students at our Cru meeting in Boston.

"Often the world around us tells us that we should cover our brokenness and cracks and aim to look all smooth, put together, and without any cracks. But that isn't real life and it also isn't the life the God is inviting us into."

I'll be speaking from Genesis 16:13 looking at Hagar and the ways that even in our mess and brokenness, our God is a God who sees and comes down to be with us.

My friends Joel and Mia, Boston alumni that are serving with Cru in Japan make a connection say: "Trace the cracks with your fingertips. The golden lines reveal a journey of brokenness and restoration. The bowl once shattered is whole again, and the useless broken pieces are now too beautiful to use."

As students take golden glue and reattach their pieces of plate or cup or bowl, they'll be acting in a small way like Jesus - healing and binding up wounds.

So would you pray for us? There are lots of students who feel broken and try so hard to cover that up. Would you pray we could help them experience a community so warm and safe that they could show us the cracks and delight in the ways God has sealed them and made them whole again?

Loving our adventurous Lord, *Brian & Malisa*

Would you pray:

- For Joel and Mia in Japan and all the other Boston Cru grads who share the gospel across the world.
- For the many students for whom Kintsugi will be their first experience of Cru (and perhaps of Christians) - that they would experience welcoming care.



We're creating Kintsugi (broken pottery repaired with gold) to symbolize the ways God sees us in our brokenness and heals us. Here's a little promo tabling on campus from this week.



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