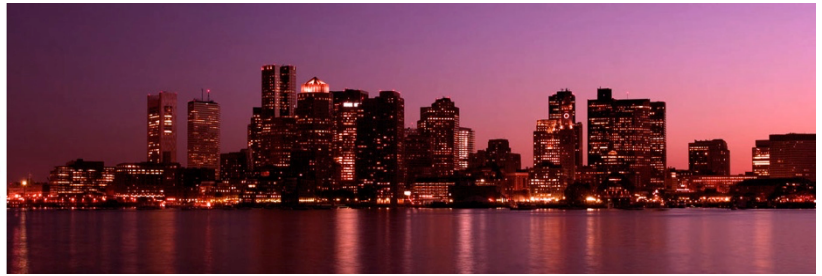


April 10, 2021

Brian & Malisa Ellis – Serving with Cru in Boston

Change Boston



Just start talking to Jesus.

Daralyn, Jeannette, and I met each week during the Fall to talk about how to grow in our relationship with Jesus. As Christmas approached, I asked them if they would be open to adding more women to our little discipleship time each week beginning in the spring. As a vibrant brand-new believer, Jeannette said an enthusiastic, “YES!” Daralyn, followed in her calm nature to say “Yes, I would be into that.”

Might God continue to grow these women? Might God expand this little group? I was reminded of a passage in 1 Corinthians 3:4-7:

“For when one says, “I follow Paul,” and another, “I follow Apollos,” are you not being merely human? What then is Apollos? What is Paul? Servants through whom you believed, as the Lord assigned to each. I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. So, neither he who plants nor he who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth.”

After the New Year, I reached out to one of our international students who couldn't be in person in the Fall. She was excited to join our little group that first week and we had a great time hearing about how Jesus was working in each of our lives and how community could play a part in that.

The next week another one of the girls I disciple connected me to Faith who is a freshman at Emmanuel college and who was interested in trying out a discipleship group for “just one week.” The first week she was so nervous, and I wasn't sure if she would come back, but she has been there every week and slowly she is opening up to tell us her story of wanting friends her age who love Jesus but not sure how to really experience friendship in that way. The girls have loved her so well.

The third week, Patricia reached out and said she had decided that she did in fact want to be in a discipleship group. Patricia is also a freshman who came faithfully to everything we did in the fall virtually but said “No” multiple times to joining a discipleship group. What had changed? I think as she talked to Jesus, he changed her heart.

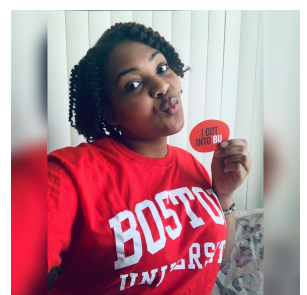
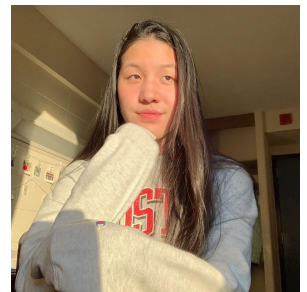
This group of young college women is incredible. From the warm “Smize” eyes and wave that I see as Patricia approaches the group each week to the excitement from Jeanette about underlining the verses that we are studying in her brand-new bible to the vulnerability of Faith sharing deep prayer requests. God has grown this group.

Could I ask you to pray for something? One of my favorite new songs is called “Talking to Jesus” by Maverick City Music and Elevation Worship. Would you pray that these 5 women would keep talking to Jesus? Keep letting him lead and direct their lives...keep asking him to heal and restores things that are broken in their lives...keep talking to him about those that they love who don't yet know Jesus.

Friends, these 5 women are special, they are the future of the church. They are the next generation, and I am so grateful that you are partnering with God as he grows them!

Loving our adventurous Lord,

Brian & Malisa



Malisa & Brian Ellis

87 Stowecroft Rd.
Arlington, MA 02474
malisa.ellis@cru.org, (617) 800-6844
brian.ellis@cru.org, (978) 828-8024
Info on how to give to our ministry at
www.brianandmalisa.com