

ALOHA KE AKUA

“GOD IS LOVE” – Featured FreshWOMAN
December 2014



I am continually amazed by what I get to call my job and how I get to spend each and everyday with students who are curious about knowing more about Jesus and having a personal relationship with Him. I love that I get to encounter other students who desire to grow and to be challenged outside of their comfort zones. I especially love that this year; I am meeting with the freshmen gals. At first, it was overwhelming and I thought I wasn't going to be able to relate or know how to handle the thoughts, actions, and desires of these young women. And yet, throughout this past semester, my heart has grown for each one of them and I have wanted more than anything to see them each individually meet God in a new way!

Kara is a freshman that I met the first week of campus as we were tabling and through a series of interactions with her, I have gained such a respect for her, as she desires to grow and be challenged as a young woman of faith! Here's what she wrote about her first interactions with Cru.

“Coming out of a small Christian school, you could say I was a bit worried about drifting away from God. Okay, scratch that... I was A LOT worried. Moving from a very sheltered environment to a public university can only be described in two words: CULTURE SHOCK. The way I see it is that college students can either go one of two ways: 1) Grow in their relationship with God or 2) drift away in their relationship with God.

My first week of college, I was expecting to meet a handful of down to earth, Christian friends. Boy, was I wrong. I'm not going to lie. Coming from a school where literally all my close friends were Christians, to a school where literally no one I could visually see were Christians led me to believe that I would never enjoy college fully the way I did high school because, as C.S. Lewis says, “What draws people to be friends is that they see the same truth. They share it.”

Then, I stumbled upon Hawaii Cru. To be blatantly honest, I'm not a friendly person when I first meet someone. While I truly do want to be, I'm just very awkward and shy when meeting new people. When I first walked into the first Crucial of the year, I could literally sense God's love in the atmosphere. The first time meeting people like Jamie in Cru, I felt right at home. The friendliness and atmosphere of Cru is truly amazing. It was at that point I knew, that I was going to be okay. God has put amazing people in my life that only want the best for me in Cru, who encourage me and push me to love God more than I ever have.

In high school, I learned the doctrine of the Bible. In college, I'm learning from Cru how to live that doctrine in love towards both believers and unbelievers. Hawaii Cru has a heart for each and every college student at UH Manoa. High school taught me how to go into a room full of people and identify this question: Where's the need? College and the actions of those in Cru, are teaching me how to do something about this question: to go out and live life for God and to actively proclaim the good news, just as Jesus did.

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