

The Harvester

Dan & Heather Litchfield
Lifelines Cru

Jan-Feb 2016



You will be my witnesses... to
the ends of the earth...

Dan spent twelve days this January exploring New Zealand, its universities, and its outdoor opportunities and policies. He and three others went in answer to an invitation by the New Zealand Cru staff who want to begin a Lifelines ministry in their country in the hopes of better reaching college students for Christ. They were able to meet all the in-country staff at their national Cru conference, learning about the direction of their ministries, and facilitating experiential programs at the conference to demonstrate how Lifelines works. One of the biggest questions was where to put a team and who would staff it. After investigating the country from top to bottom and having numerous conversations with staff, students, and locals, it has been decided that we will send a U.S. team to begin a Lifelines ministry in Dunedin, home of the University of Otago, NZ's oldest university, serving over 20,000 students. As a starting point, this team will spend 7 months training the NZ staff so that they can carry on the ministry themselves. God willing, we may be part of that team.

End of an era

On December 23rd, Vonette Bright, co-founder of Campus Crusade for Christ, passed on to spend eternity with the Lord she loved and glorified. She and her husband Bill Bright were a tremendous inspiration to us. They lived out their faith with great assurance, boldly proclaiming Christ, and joyfully celebrating Him. May God graciously give us that same Spirit.



Facilitator School

*"I have never
experienced
anything like this."*

*– Member of another
Christian outdoor ministry*

"This is the best ministry training I have EVER had," said a youth pastor of the Facilitator School we hosted at the beginning of this month. The purpose of the School is to help Cru staff and church leaders develop their skills in small and large group facilitation and to learn how to use experiential learning in ministry. Along with tips on how to deal with conflict, methods for communicating, managing different personalities in a group, etc., we focus heavily on how to create an environment for growth. This is the part that is most challenging to facilitate, but it is where God works on our hearts as we walk in the light and relate in grace and truth. There are always tears involved, but as one of this year's participants said, "I feel hope for the first time." It is that kind of hope and personal growth that we want participants to experience and recreate in their own ministries, putting God's Word to practice in the moment. This is just one way that the training is experiential. We also strive to teach each subject experientially... for example this photo shows Cru staff in a 3-legged event where they are role-playing as "The Expert" and "Mr. Passive Aggressive." We talk about seeing people not as problems but as people loved by God and still in process. Our hope is that we all leave with greater skill in helping people grow personally in Christ-likeness and together as His Body.

*"This is the best
training I have ever
experienced through
Cru." – Cru staff person*

