

J U L Y 2 0 1 6

the

Harvester

Lifelines, the outdoor and experiential learning ministry of Cru

100 Miles

"I cannot possibly squish my foot back into that sneaker. Lord, help me!" I prayed as I raked my shoe over bloodied blisters... again. My feet were already a mess from playing soccer in sandals with a group of foster kids in Madrid, so I was ill prepared for 100 more miles. Yet God helped us all persevere. When was the last time I *walked* to the next town? Or lived so simply? Or had such *time* to commune with the Lord? It was invaluable. I urge you, take a day just to walk, all day, and you will hear from God. He wants our full attention, devotion and dependence. The Camino did it!

Yellow arrows and sea shells mark the trail as pilgrims make their way to the sea and to the apostle James' final resting site.



Buen Camino!

On Mission in Northern Spain

The Camino de Santiago is an ancient pilgrimage from all parts of Europe to northwest Spain. It is called "The Way of St. James" and it was our privilege to lead a group of 12 students and staff on a portion of this trek in an effort to draw nearer to He who is the Way. First we hiked the trail and then we stayed at a house on the Camino trail, loving and serving searching pilgrims and directing them toward The One who has every answer: Jesus Christ.

Your prayers make the difference. Thank you!

August 8

Is our staff report due for the new semester. Pray for refreshed spirits and faith in action.

August 11

We'll lead trips for all of Cru's interns in the northeast. Pray for a joyful commitment to Him

August 29

1st day of classes! Please pray for God to open hearts to His calling to both lost and saved students.



600 pilgrims a day, searching for answers

Life in Ligonde

Emily, one of our students from Nebraska, hugs the rock wall to escape a herd of cows as it passes in front of the 400 year old house we lived in in the tiny village of Ligonde. She and James, another student, were self-appointed pooper-scoopers, keeping the road clean for visiting pilgrims. What did God teach her through her own pilgrimage? “I am able to see the beauty in the tiny things... and the true meaning of a community centered around God.”



Finding the Way

One of the things we did after eating dinner with the pilgrims, was to go through Soularium, an evangelistic tool that uses picture cards to describe one's perspective of God. Every night we had guests from every corner of the globe with every spiritual background; one of the men in this photo claimed to be a vampire. And each night we had people thank us for the best experience they had had on the Camino. All of these visitors had the chance to see the Jesus Film, engage in a spiritual discussion and experience the love of Christ.

Every Tongue, Tribe and Nation

In one week we met pilgrims from 48 countries. Many were at a turning point in their lives: lost a job, retired, got divorced or lost a loved one. One man from the island of Seychelles in the Indian Ocean was in his late 70s and had walked 1,500 miles as a penance. He was illiterate but carried a prayer in French and cried when he had me read it to him. On another occasion a Columbian woman was seeking a miracle for her sick 8 year old daughter. Crying and praying alongside her and offering hope in Christ is one of my treasured memories. Yet another man, estranged from his family, accepted Christ and is now part of the family of God!



Family News

It was a tremendous joy to have our son Caleb, and my brother Andy on this trip; both fully invested in the mission. Meanwhile, Dan rocked single-parenting, though I grieved missing Emma's 12th birthday and the kids' year-end events. The week I returned we discovered that Micah has Lyme Disease; please pray with us that a round of antibiotics can stop it. On a positive note, the chickens are now laying eggs, so Dan is finally getting some payback!