



January 2025

"Meeting this community changed the trajectory of my whole life. You guys are the people who introduced me to Jesus, and for that, I'm eternally grateful."

During our winter retreat recently, the underclassmen were in our primary meeting space, discussing how and what they wanted to trust God for in the calendar year to come as they continue on in ministry at Ohio University. Our staff team and seniors gathered in the dining hall at the camp where we were staying to pray for them and to thank God for all he has accomplished these past 4 years.

Some of what came up were reminders of how our movement has grown since our Winter Retreat 3 years prior. We couldn't believe that there were 136 students there, which is the largest number we've ever had attend a winter retreat, after having maybe 60 there in 2022. Some were grateful for the friendships they'd made. And there were others who just cried because they didn't know how else to express how good God has been to them. But there were a couple that stood out most to me (Clay):

John shared his feelings in the quote above, as he found Jesus and moved from a life of emptiness to a life full in Jesus.

Sarah: *"Cru has helped me know Jesus like I never knew I could. This community has helped foster a love that I had never experienced."*

Jacob: *"You guys are family, all throughout college - If I could be home or here, I'd be here."*

Jaedyn: *"This community is the closest thing that I can say has helped me experience how God fully knows me and still fully loves me."*

It's a blessing to serve out our purpose as disciples who make disciples with students like these. Our gratitude for God's goodness to us cannot begin to measure compared to all that he has given, both through his Son and in our ministry. Thank you so much for being in this ministry with us.

Yours in Christ,

Clay + Emily



FAMILY UPDATE

We have had a busy couple of months! The end of 2024 was filled with Christmas, Winter Conference, and several school-related Christmas pageants, not to mention a large number of snow days and a spate of illness (Flu A, Norovirus, Croup, etc...). In lieu of more details, here are a lot of photos! Thank you all for your prayers for our family!



PRAISE + PRAYER REQUESTS

- Please pray for as we continue to raise financial support for our ministry. We have not taken a pay increase since 2016. As inflation and the cost of living have increased dramatically over the past few years, as well as the size of our family, we have finally decided we must. Please pray for the Lord's provision so that we can continue to do the work to which God has called us at OU.
- Pray for our ministry to continue to meet and reach students who have yet to trust Jesus. Pray for their hearts to be soft and receptive to the Good News.