

# The Selways

## Clay & Emily



SE OHIO CRU  
January 29th, 2016

## A Non-Christian's Experience of Cru

The following is an excerpt of article published in The Post, the student newspaper at OU. It was written by Grace Eberly, a self-proclaimed non-Christian student at OU who writes for the newspaper. We thought it was a fascinating and encouraging look into what non-Christians experience through God's work in our ministry.

...Two weeks ago, I swallowed my pride and attended 180, Cru's weekly worshipping gathering at Ohio University. Cru is a student community that is "passionate about connecting people to Jesus." It meets weekly Thursdays at 9 p.m. in Morton 201.

I had heard a rumor that Cru was the largest student organization on campus, with upward of 400 students attending 180 on a weekly basis. I said I wouldn't believe it until I saw it with my own eyes. I believe it.



The author, Grace - a senior studying world religions and biology.

Morton 201 is one of the largest lecture halls on campus and, when I slipped in and sat down in the back row with pen and paper in hand, nearly every seat was filled.

What's more? I have never seen so many students in a lecture hall paying attention. Seriously. The hundreds of students that were there were totally tuned in. There was none of the "discrete" texting that you see in classes and meetings. Ninety minutes without college kids checking their phones or being obnoxiously loud — it was almost enough to make me convert right then and there.

The evening began with devotional songs led by a praise band (composed of singers, guitarists, a drummer, a cellist and a violinist). These weren't your grandma's church hymns. The music was contemporary, fast-paced, and I even caught myself tapping my foot on several occasions.

Then, a female student shared her testimony and encouraged others to strengthen their personal relationship with God. After more music, another student approached the podium and delivered the sermon — which was, ironically, on the

subject of fear.

I was afraid. I hadn't attended any kind of church service in probably four or five years. I was afraid that I would be harassed and evangelized. Neither of those things happen. I had not given these Christians — my fellow students — the benefit of the doubt.

After the sermon, the room engaged in five minutes of silent prayer and reflection as an acoustic guitar played softly in the background. I must say, I appreciated the break. Between classes, work and extracurricular activities, I rarely take the time to just sit with myself. As I looked around the room and saw three hundred college students completely silent and thinking about something bigger than themselves, I smiled.

The theme of one of Cru's upcoming conferences is, "This changes everything." I must admit that I did not leave 180 re-committed to the Christian faith. But, for what it may be worth, much indeed had changed.

This was not the Christianity of the dark corners of Facebook. This was not the Christianity of Kim Davis. This was the Christianity of my classmates. This was a Christianity of comfort, of sacrifice and of love. And that is a Christianity that I, as a non-Christian, can get behind.

*Cru reached out to Grace and told her how glad we were that she came, and invited her to come back any time. Would you join with us in praying that Grace would come realize that what she experienced was not just the Christianity of her classmates, but the Christianity of Jesus, and come to know the Lord? Thank you for co-laboring with us as we attempt to reach every student with the love and message of the gospel.*

*'Til the whole world knows,*

*Clay + Emily*

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# We've Moved!

We moved back to Athens on January 2nd and began work with students the following week. We've settled into the home we're renting on the city's west side, and we absolutely love it. It's the perfect size for hosting students, and is only about a 6 minute drive from campus. We are also close to the rest of our team and not far from church. It feels like the perfect fit! Praise God for his provision! Thank you for your faithful prayers for our home search.

*Please make note of our new address:*



**5 E Clearview Dr A  
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# Prayer Requests for The Selways for February

*Stick this card anywhere that will remind you to pray!*

1. We've moved! Please pray for us as we settle into our new home and establish a new life as on-campus staff.
2. Pray for the 3 students who decided to trust Christ with Clay/Emily over the past few weeks - Hannah, Andrea, and Seth.
3. Please pray for the upcoming spring break mission trip we will be taking students on. Pray for an ease of planning all the details and that student's would experience life change through the power of the Holy Spirit while on the trip.
4. Please continue to pray for Emily's health. Her auto-immune disorder has "flared" again from the stress and disruption of moving. She is fine, and for the most part feels fine, but it's something that needs to come under control to prevent long-term damage.

**We'd love to pray for you. Please share your prayer requests with us!**

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