CRU at UNC

JOSH AND ERIN SMITH

UNC-CHAPEL HILL

OCTOBER 2018



Pray for the Smiths

- Pray for "Bruce," a student in EA we got to share the gospel with. Pray he would deeply consider the claims of Christ.
- Pray for the UNC students serving in EA this year- David, Phillip (pictured below with Josh), Emily, Zach, Hailey and Rachel.
- Pray for our sending focus this month (we call it GOvember) as we challenge UNC students to do something that will stretch their faith this summer!

Everyday Church

One of the ever-present challenges we are finding on the college campus is that people are so busy. One student Erin spoke with recently is in 11 clubs! It is more challenging than ever to help guide students into how to streamline their time and most effectively engage with non-Christians.

Enter a book called *Everyday Church*. It has provided some simple ideas to encourage multiplying faith into the lives of others by doing things you are already doing. Some of these ideas are so simple, you would typically overlook them! We hope our movement at UNC could provide an opportunity for everyone to know someone who truly follows Jesus. On the back you'll find a resource we've given to Bible Studies to push people deeper into the lives of others. Pray for fruit from this in Cru students' lives and for an impact on the rest of campus as a result.

East Asia Coaching Trip

Josh had the privilege to visit two STINT teams OCT 21-28 in East Asia on a coaching trip. (One of the teams was made up of all UNC alumns!)As a STINT coach, Josh is acting in a shepherding role to listen, encourage and offer an outside ear to the STINT team as they function together. It was an incredible eight day trip full of great interaction, food and *two 15 hour flights*.

One day we spent time on campus with each team meeting students and having the opportunity to share the Gospel with students who have never heard it! We also spent some time with the teams, hearing how they were adjusting and talking through how to best function as a team.

These STINT teams are filled with recent graduates who are experiencing a lot of transition. New jobs, new culture, new language, new work relationships. And when you combine all that with this reality that their team is also family and now roommate... tension is inevitable! Pray that they would Love the Lord, Love their Team, Learn the Culture, and Launch Movements on these campuses! And pray for the gospel to go deeper into their own hearts and envelope unbelief.



STAFF ACCOUNT #: 0549860 P: 919-381-7564 The Outward Focus Servant Team wants to help resource your Community Group to be thinking about how you can move toward people God has already placed in your day to day life. What if 400 of us walking beside others all over campus cared more about others in meaningful ways without adding anything to your schedule?

READ THIS LIST TOGETHER

Here are 6 areas from a book *Everyday Church* meant to help us think creatively about being intentional. The essence of these ideas is 2 fold: 1 - <u>Flee</u> Christian sub-culture and mix it up with others 2- <u>Without</u> having to add things to your schedule! Nothing will replace a genuine interest in caring for others, but here are some ideas to mix it up.



BRAINSTORM TOGETHER

We want you to brainstorm together some ways to do this individually. So walk through this list together, after reading each number take 2 min and get creative (no idea is a bad idea) to make this list better.

COMMIT TO SOMETHING

Then individually commit to 2 or 3 things on this list and in your small groups hold each other accountable and regularly talk about how God's faithfulness shows up.

- **1- Eat with Non-Christians**: We all eat three meals a day. Why not make a habit of sharing one of those meals with a non-Christian? Grab lunch with a suite mate, someone from group project, or after a class. Text someone today outside your Christian circles if they want to get lunch tomorrow.
- **2- Walk with a purpose**: As you physically go to your A to B, get to know someone. Notice others, say hello to people you see regularly. If you walk the same route as others ask a question, take an interest in their lives. Pray as you go asking God to be at work in this area of your life. Pray for God to move along the way for this area of your life.
- **3-Be a regular**: Instead of hopping all over campus, do the same things at the same time AND DO THEM IN THE SAME PLACE. This is a small act, but what would it look like to trust God to build relationships with your routine as you intentionally cultivate a faithful presence among the same people. Get to know staff or Unc faculty. Show up early with a smile to class or work. Study at the same places. Do the things you always do, just do them routinely at the same place. Go to the SRC, go on a run, unwind together at night, do your thing consistently trusting God for the results.
- **4-Volunteer somewhere**: We don't want to be the only thing you do on campus. Join an effort that cares about something that breaks God's heart and be a part of what is already happening to fix it. There are 800+ student organizations at UNC on campus. Many of them are making restorative efforts and have funding to make an impact. Read the list of student organizations together. Heellife.unc.edu/organizations
- **5-Do fun stuff together** Instead of another night of Netflix alone, spend time with another person in your circle doing something new together. Better yet, figure out something fun going on and invite someone new along to go with you. Sports, social events, concerts, intramurals, something you may already care about that is happening! Do a DIY workshop at the Be a MakerSpace, learn about a new social issue in the UNC lecture series. If you don't have a hobby why not learn something new with someone around you.
- **6-Serve your neighbors** Help a neighbor to improve their status quo. Offer a ride if you have a car. Share your stuff. Clean the bathroom. Clean the common areas. Ask your suitemates, what you could do to help improve things. Just dive in and serve those closest around you. Try to answer the question, "How can I make this situation better...right now?"

We want to encourage you to think through how we can cultivate meaningful interaction and give our lives away to others without making it complicated Small acts of faithfulness over time are way more influential than a big planned-out event. Anyone can do this right now and it doesn't take a ton of time or energy.

Take a few minutes and improve this list together and come up with something you want to do.