CRU at UNC

JOSH AND ERIN SMITH

UNC-CHAPEL HILL

APRIL / MAY 2016





This spring marks our 13th year with CRU. Sometimes it's hard to measure what we see happen over the course of a few years in a person's life. We work hard to create an environment for God to work on a campus where the message of grace seems insignificant or irrelevant. But he is doing something incredible! This year, one question on our application for those wanting to lead a Bible study next year was: *How has the gospel impacted your life during college?* The answers provided a glimpse into what he is doing in these young hearts. *And you have played a huge part in these stories.*..

Pray for the Smiths

- We will be in Charleston May 27-July 2. Pray for our staff team to enjoy the gospel as we work to help our students embrace and live out of it!
- Pray for our church partnerships in Charleston to create longevity in our interactions with the city.
- Pray for UNC students and their summer whether they be taking summer school, going home or going somewhere adventurouspray they walk closely with God.
- Pray for our UNC staff team as we embark on our summer assignments: East Asia, Charleston and Sweden.
- Pray for a good summer and easy transition for Harrison and Allie in Charleston. They will be among 9 staff kids there this summer.

"I came to know Christ in October of my freshman year. Throughout my childhood and even many of my teen years, I went to church but never truly knew the gospel. Learning that the Bible wasn't just a confusing book and that God wasn't just someone to set a bunch of rules for humanity was life-altering."

"Since I have been in college, the Lord has shown me what it means to truly follow him and he has shown me his love. I have been able to have more meaningful relationships and able to live more purposefully in everything I do."

"The Gospel is complex and convicting and even offensive. It literally says you are not "good" enough, and will never be "good" enough, and as a result, we are in desperate need of a Savior. That's tough to swallow--especially on the UNC campus that sets bars of "good" enough around every worthy achievement in it's societal eyes. The Gospel has made me challenge the way I think and given me a different lens to see the world--but especially, this campus--through. I am fully convinced of the beauty of the Gospel. And for that, the glory is truly all God's.

"The Gospel has rocked me since I walked into UNC as a freshman. I thought I knew what a relationship with God looked like through High school, but I realized that I didn't. I knew all the answers, but didn't live that out. Now, I see how God is changing me and the way I handle my faith. I would say things have become much more serious and my faith has become my #1 priority."

"The summer before my freshman year, I distinctly remember thinking that the first week in college could truly decide the rest of my time at Carolina. I had been invited to both a party and to the CRU freshman pizza picnic, and I praise God everyday that I decided to go to that picnic, which led me to go to CRU large group and go to the Craige girls bible study that first week. My relationship with God in college has shown me how to be more patient, more gentle, more kind, more joyful Without CRU, and especially without Jesus, my life would be completely different."

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