

MARCH 2016



"I grew up in a Christian home and went to church every Sunday. I had learned about the Bible and its stories, but I never truly listened to them."

These are the words that a female high school student from Verona Area High School recently shared with one of our staff members. She went on to tell more about her story. **"I was bullied a lot in elementary school and middle school because I wasn't like everyone else, and I knew that. I was made fun of for being a Christian. I lost my faith a little in seventh grade**

when I started dealing with mental illness. I started self-harming and I attempted suicide for the first time. My problems seemed to keep getting worse, and I attempted suicide a few more times. During my freshman year of high school I started struggling with my sexuality and gender. I dated two girls and they were not positive relationships. These relationships screwed me up, and I attempted suicide for the seventh time. One of my exes had me skip class, smoke, and then raped me. I couldn't believe it happened to me."

After dealing with all of this pain on her own, this student started attending Wildcat Cru, the Cru High School ministry at Verona High School, this past fall. **"In December, two of my Wildcat Cru group leaders brought me to a college student who had dealt with some of the same issues as me. I re-gave my heart to the Lord in a coffee shop in Verona. I then went to FastBreak (Cru High School's Winter Conference), and that was the first time I really felt loved by God. Since then I have been so encouraged and am walking with God as He heals my heart and heals my scars, both physical and mental."**

Praise God for the way He continues to work in this student's life! He has been so faithful as our Cru High School leaders have reached out to high school students at Verona Area High School in Verona, WI and Middleton High School in Middleton, WI.

What a blessing it is to see Christ transform lives on so many campuses, both high school & collegiate, in the Madison area and Southern Wisconsin. Thank you for partnering with us to reach these students with the Gospel!

In Christ,

Madison Area & Southern Wisconsin Cru Staff Team



Top: A group photo from Fast Break, Cru High School's Winter Conference in January.

Left: Madison Area Cru High School leaders and students playing dodgeball during free time at Fast Break.