

THE LORD IS  
COMPASSIONATE  
AND GRACIOUS,  
SLOW TO ANGER,  
ABOUNDING IN  
LOVE.

PSALM 103:8



# CALEB & LAURA COOK

CRU.ORG

January 31, 2019

Over 1,000 college students gathered in downtown Minneapolis during winter break to move towards God and towards others. One student, Kimberly, came to Jesus at this winter conference. Here's the story of how that happened.

After his talk on why the Bible is relevant to us today, one of the conference speakers named Matt Mikalatos invited students to meet him in the back of the ballroom if they wanted to talk more about following Jesus. One young woman, Kimberly, went to meet Matt. She told him she had been going to church and coming to Cru for a little over a year, and she wanted to follow Jesus.

At one point in the conversation Matt asked Kimberly, "If your life was a house, is Jesus living inside the house or outside?"

She said, "He's my neighbor. I know him well, I see him every day, but he's not inside my life."

Matt asked her, "Do you want to invite Jesus into your life?"

Kimberly responded, "That's what I've been trying out how to do!"

Matt invited her to go get some other people, and Kimberly went and found six of her friends. When they came back, she was very emotional. He asked her if she had told them why they were coming and she said no, and he then asked if he could. So Matt explained to her friends, and as he started explaining, one of her friends burst into tears.

They then gathered all around her. Matt asked if she wanted to pray her own words or copy words he said, and she said, "Both!" Matt went on to give Kimberly an example of what to say, and she prayed her own version after. At one point she burst out, "I want to follow you, Jesus! I really do! That's what I've been trying to say, I want to follow you!"

Afterward, her friends all hugged her, and everybody thanked God for being a part of such a beautiful moment together.

Thank you for your partnership in ministry with us which helps make moments like these possible.

#### *Family Update:*

We celebrated James's 4th birthday on January 15th! We happened to be in Daytona Beach, FL while Caleb was coaching a group of Cru new staff in a Bible Study Methods class. We will share more on that next month. Thank you for your prayers for our family.

With love in Christ,

*Caleb & Laura*



Photo: This is the speaker, Matt, hosting a conversation about engaging with difficult questions in the culture of their universities as they follow Jesus. The people represented here are working to fight sex trafficking, bring the love of Jesus to the LGBTQ community on campus, and host conversations about ethnicity and race and the power of the gospel.

#### Prayer Requests:

"It was absolutely amazing. It felt like something I was missing my whole life." That's what Joseph said about Winter Conference. Please pray for the students like Joseph and Kimberly who attended the conference.

Please pray the momentum from Winter Conference carries into the local campuses as teams start a new semester of ministry.

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