



It has been four weeks since the death of George Floyd while in the custody of Minneapolis Police officers. Laura and I are grieved by the killing of George Floyd and the evils of racism and injustice. Since his death, there have been many peaceful protests flowing from the pain of injustice and the sin of racism in Minneapolis and around the world. There has also been riots, looting, burning, and outrage. It is an understatement to say that the last three weeks have been intense. Please pray for Minneapolis and the pursuit of justice, righteousness, mercy, and peace. Please pray for hearts to love our neighbor and to listen, learn, lament, and leverage our resources and opportunities to advocate for others and serve. Please pray for us as we join God in his kingdom work of reversing all that is wrong in the world, both spiritually and relationally.

There are two Cru statements we would like to make you aware of that can be found online at cru.org. We encourage you to read them. The first is titled "In Response to the Death of George Floyd" and the second is from the Cru Inner City Ministry titled "Naming Sin: A Response to the Killing of George Floyd."

Direct links to these statements can be found at calebandlauracook.weebly.com

Our Summer Sabbatical

We are pleased to share with you that on June 17, we began our first sabbatical with Cru. It will extend (with some additional vacation time added on) through July 31. After completing eight years on staff, and every four years thereafter, Cru staff members are encouraged to take a 30 consecutive day sabbatical. Cru staff are further encouraged to leverage the sabbatical as a time of spiritual refreshment and renewal. We look forward to pursuing God as we take this sabbatical from our Cru ministry and leadership responsibilities.

It is hard to believe we have been on staff for nine years already! Please pray for us as we seek to connect with the Lord and each other. We have made intentional plans and our prayer is that we come back rejuvenated and well-rested in such way so as to better serve God and others in Cru in the years ahead. A big personal goal of mine (Caleb) is to spend time processing all God did and taught me (and us as a family) through the past few years in seminary (I graduated May 7th).

We are certainly thankful for the ministry of Cru that encourages its ministry staff to pursue spiritual refreshment and renewal as part of its organizational culture, but more importantly, we are thankful for you and your partnership in ministry with us. We are reminded each day what a privilege it is to do this work and how you, our generous partners in ministry, make it possible. You are such a blessing to us. Thank you for your partnership in helping reach college students for Christ.

With love in Christ,

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