



GrantMinistry.org

Reaching **COLLEGE STUDENTS** with Jeff and Karen

God is an unstoppable juggernaut of love who will tear down any barrier to get to our hearts... but He is also full of fun and laughter, delighting in the delight of His children!



AUGUST 2018

Love,
Jeff + Karen

FRESHMAN WEEK

Fun can be sacred, and a lot of work! The first weeks of school are by far the most important for college ministry.

Freshmen hit the campus lost, confused and desperate to fit in. Whom they connect with during those first flailing days often defines much of the trajectory of their school years and beyond.

This is why Cru missionaries and student leaders invest an incredible amount of our time and resources on fun to draw the

attention of wide-eyed Freshmen and invite them into the promise of a safe community where they can explore and expand faith in Jesus. Our role has also been to help get more people involved in this process.

We want to see Freshmen coming onto campus having already made friends with Cru because they were introduced as prospective students by their churches back home. We want to see local churches welcoming the Freshmen side-by-side with us, so they naturally connect to the multi-generational body of Christ while at school.

We've seen a lot of progress here, with churches even hosting our Cru students' summer programs and semester planning meetings. Please pray pray pray for these incoming students to plug in and grow for Jesus, and pray for church partnerships to grow everywhere!



TUES 6-8 PM VOLLEYBALL AT HERCULES COURTS	WED 6-8 PM CAMPUS WIDE HANGOUT HAMMOCK AND YARD GAMES @ MEMORY MALL LAZY MOON AFTER PARTY
THURS @ 8:30 PM CHECK OUT CRU & PANCAKE PARTY @ 1395 CAMPUS VIEW CT. OVIEDO, FL 32765	FRI @ 8 PM HOUSE PARTY 14544 UNBRIDLED DRIVE ORLANDO, FL 32826

PRAISES

- * Gospel infiltrating the media
- * Several thousand students returning from Summer missions
- * Karen's ministry of encouragement is growing
- * Churches joining hands to share Christ in every neighborhood

One of many social events we do during the first weeks to plug students into a Christian community



Student and Staff leadership team

REACHING INFLUENCERS

Karen and I have always had a heart for those who influence so

many through arts and entertainment.

Recognizing the enormous potential and the intense pressures these folks face, Karen frequently prays for the actors of a movie while she's watching it, and I've always looked for opportunities to help send more of God's agents well-prepared into this strategic industry.

That said, this latest event sort of fell into our laps :). Students at a local college had arranged for a well-connected Christian in the film industry to come out and give a seminar on "how to succeed in Hollywood without losing your soul." When the school took away their meeting space, they asked for help and we were able to have it hosted at the world headquarters of Cru instead. What an opportunity to meet and pour into the lives of these incredibly sharp students! More continues to develop as we form partnerships with Christians in Hollywood and Atlanta. Please pray for your favorite movie stars as well as the stars of the future, and God's agents of hope!



Student leaders setting up the event at Cru headquarters

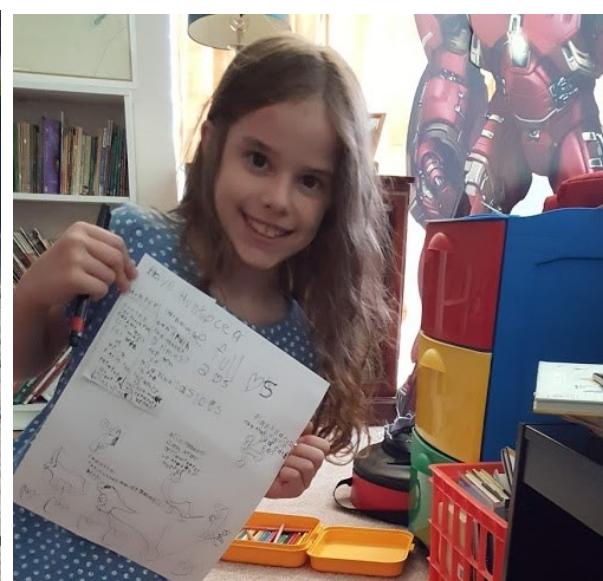


REQUESTS

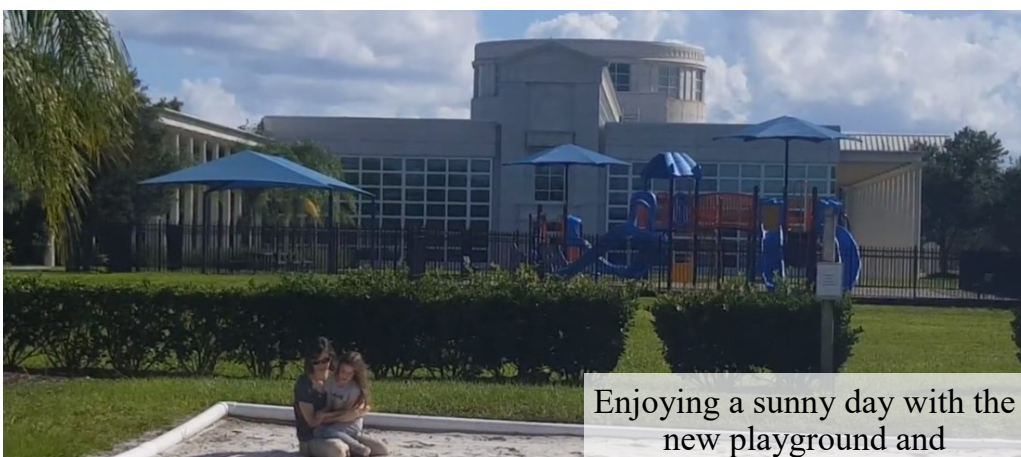
- * Freshmen to find safe, faithful community in Cru
- * Potential launch on Staten Island
- * Our family's new school year
- * For us to continue growing in all that God has for us

Psalms 19:14

May the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be pleasing in your sight,
O Lord, my Rock and my Redeemer.



Our children continue their fascination with dinosaurs and designing board games— below is a combination of both!



Enjoying a sunny day with the new playground and volleyball court at Cru HQ. See the backstory [here](#).



WHAT GOD'S BEEN TEACHING US

Karen and I have been in a season of raising support for our ministry lately. I believe God allows us to be in this place because He has specific people He wants us to talk to, places He wants us to go, and things He wants us to learn. Our Father has all the resources in the world, and we know (though we don't always feel like it) that He will always provide for us to achieve the ministry He calls us to. This dynamic creates a great platform for us to understand who God is from a unique perspective.

One aspect of this relationship is that God commands us to obey and be faithful, but it is really Him who accomplishes the results of that labor. Sometimes, He brings success through our work (Judges 7:1-23) and sometimes it is completely independent (2 Chronicles 32:20-23).

This is very true as we raise support. The Lord asks us to be faithful to reach out and share our ministry with people, inviting them to join our team in prayer and financial support. And God provides: sometimes through the people we've reached out to and sometimes from places we never could have predicted.

This is true in other parts of our ministry and other parts of life as well. The Lord invites us to join Him in what *He* is doing. He doesn't need us, but He wants to relate to us and I don't want to miss out on this special time with my Heavenly Father!

