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First times are incredibly memorable. Your first dance, first job, first time sharing your faith...these things stick with us. In Cru, as students take steps of a faith to grow as disciples of Jesus, there are many landmark firsts. On our Spring Break trip in March, two of our students Kate and Gavin, along with several others, had a first of initiating spiritual conversations and sharing their faith. That's one of the big outcomes of our spring break trip: breaking the sound barrier of evangelism - opening their mouth and trusting God to give them the words.

Those two joined three others from the Twin Cities Metro to go to a leadership training camp in May called Trek. Nathaniel serves on the leadership team for the event, this year hosting 50+ students for 5 days of equipping for a lifetime of walking with Jesus and joining in God's Great Commission. Both Gavin and Kate are expecting to lead Bible study, disciple students and share the gospel back on campus next fall and needed some extra training to get ready for those leadership roles; Gavin at the U of M and Kate at St. Catherine's University.

During Trek, there is a day of outreach where we send the students into the city of La Crosse, Wisconsin with the goal of initiating spiritual conversations and looking for opportunities to share the gospel with people. Though Kate and Gavin had recent experience doing this during spring break, neither felt comfortable leading in those endeavors. However, they were each paired with people who had much less experience than them. There's being uncomfortable, but following along with someone who's leading, and then there's leading while being uncomfortable; that's what was in store for them!

After 2 and half hours, they reported back and each of them had seen two people trust Christ through their presentation of the gospel! They had heard the passage "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness. (2 Corinthians 12:9) and now they'd experienced it. Kate said, "I love sharing my faith, I want to do this all the time back on campus!" Seeing someone trust Christ through your steps of faith, that's a first they will never forget!

Training opportunities like Trek are so important for our students; as missionary staff, we also need to take time to pull away to get new training and renew our vision. This summer we have the opportunity to do just that as we join over 4000 other staff from around the country at our national staff conference, being held close to home in Milwaukee! Between the conference fees for all four of us (they have a great kid's program!), housing, and meal costs over the week-long conference we will incur significant expenses above our normal monthly donation income. Would you prayerfully consider helping us bridge this gap by partnering with us through a special gift of \$100, \$200, or some other amount that is significant to you? If you feel led to give a gift, you can send a check made out to "Cru" in the enclosed envelope or visit [give.cru.org/0583695](http://give.cru.org/0583695). Thank you for sending us out to invest in students like Kate and Gavin, the ripple effect of your partnership is now bearing fruit in the lives of those they led to Christ in La Crosse and will continue next year on campus!

Until everyone hears,

*Nathaniel and Bethany Broughton*