

"I appreciate you so much for the way you led our Executive ministry team training. It helped change our team culture. The input you gave for me as the director and for our whole executive team was so wise and effective."

Dirke received the above compliment just this past week from one of Cru's U.S. National leadership directors whose team helps equip and influence the nearly 6,000 U.S. Missionary staff who minister around the world. Dirke led a two day workshop that helped them navigate through a variety of team issues that were keeping them from more effectively equipping missionaries to minister to the unreached.

Dirke's strengths of problem solving, relational awareness skills and ministry team experience has been a great fit for Dirke's increased role in leading Cru's Executive team effectiveness training. This fall Dirke has worked with numerous executive teams, including Cru's Inner City team headquartered in the Twin Cities. The first of November Dirke and Cru's National Leadership Development director spent several days at a retreat center in northern MN working with their executive team. Next week Dirke will be working with one of Cru's global leadership teams.

In addition to working with Cru Executive teams, Dirke also leads Cru's Institute of Biblical Studies for new missionary staff. This January we anticipate nearly 150 new missionaries to get theological training.



Lorna with Pastor Joel Hunter (left).

Dr. Hunter is the chairperson for the Central FL Commission on Homelessness in which Lorna is a member. He has often been featured on national T.V. He pastors a church distributed of more than 20,000 people. He is an advocate for the poor and homeless. **He strongly believes that "Pro-life" issues are more than just protecting the vulnerable inside the womb, but it also requires protecting the vulnerable outside the womb.**

God continues to open doors for Lorna as she develops the Athletic Training Academy for urban athletes who are from homeless or distressed environments. She has recently added a man to her board of directors who has worked in several past Presidential administrations.

Pray for the Academy's building development that seeks to house high school athletes and to assist their families to become stabilized within their community. **Pray** for favor as Lorna interacts with Shelley Lauten who is the new director of the homeless commission. Lorna is hoping Shelley will help her meet some of the needs among our homeless high school students that are falling through the gap. **Pray** that Lorna continues to share the gospel as she meets with high school students each week, city officials and community leaders.

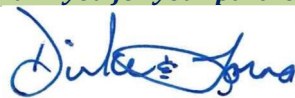
Lorna will also be ministering at the Impact Conference in Atlanta at the end of the month. Impact is a ministry that reaches African American college, high school and young adults with the gospel and equips them to spread God's word in their spheres of influence. **Pray** God brings all who He wants there and that lives will be impacted for Christ.



We are looking forward to Christmas. We will have all of our kids meet in the Twin Cities where we will experience our first white Christmas in almost 10 years. I'm dusting off my winter coat as I write this. Our girls and our four grandchildren are growing up fast so these times together are always precious. Continue to pray for us as the Lord brings us to your mind. Have a great Christmas!

At left, we caught that rare moment on camera where you can see our guardian angel watching over us! 😊

Thank you for your partnership to reach a new generation for Christ!



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