

IN PURSUIT OF

**ETERNAL  
JOY**

THANKSGIVING REPORT 2024



### ABOUT US

Cru Singapore is a caring community passionate about connecting others to Jesus.

Our purpose is to help fulfil the Great Commission in the power of the Holy Spirit by reaching people to faith in Jesus Christ, building them in their faith and sending them to reach and build others.

We also help the body of Christ do missions, evangelism and discipleship.

### OUR VISION

Movements everywhere, so that everyone knows someone who truly follows Jesus.

### OUR MISSION

Reach, build and send Christ-centred multiplying disciples who launch spiritual movements.

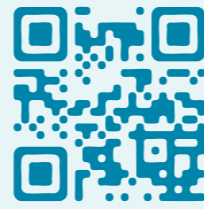


## PARTNER US!

As we reflect on the impact of this past year, we are filled with gratitude for the prayers and generosity of our ministry partners. Your contributions made a difference in the lives of those we serve. As we look ahead, we invite you to continue *making disciples everywhere* with us.

Every gift, whether large or small, empowers us to help fulfil the Great Commission. Together, we can bring the gift of eternal joy to more men and women. Thank you for being an essential part of this partnership.

To support us, scan this QR code with your camera app and fill out the necessary information. Please include in the payment notes: **TR2024**.



[cru.sg/givegf](https://cru.sg/givegf)

## CONTENTS

03

Foreword

04

Year in Review

05

Memorable Moments

06

Blessed, and Now a Blessing

08

Beauty from Brokenness

10

A Call to Step Up

11

From the Next Generation

Published by Corporate Communications Team  
Interviews : Marcus Sia (Something WNDFL)  
Designer : Sulindra Yasmin  
Editor : Eileen Paton  
Copy Editor : Shirley Chua

## FOREWORD BY COUNTRY LEADER

Each passing day brings us closer to Christ's return. As we look forward to that moment, we, as citizens of heaven and children of God, seek to be faithful followers of Christ—whether in navigating the mundane ebbs and flows of daily routines, taking on challenging tasks for God, or being tossed by the insurmountable waves that life throws at us.

We can follow the examples of Jesus (Hebrews 12:2) and the saints of Hebrews 11, who were confident of the eternal joy that God offers, both in the heights of success and the depths of struggle. **They pressed on in devoting themselves to the honour of God and pursuing alignment with His will. Their faith was not sidetracked by the fleeting pleasures of sin (Hebrews 11:25), but endured in the pursuit of eternal joy.**

This year, Cru Singapore continued our **#GO** faith venture to send 200 short-term mission teams over a 25-month period. We are thankful to God for raising up almost **150** teams of over **500** participants, who were sent to **18** countries from December 2023 to December 2024.

We also saw the launch of two new internship programmes—**CATALYST** and **FUEL**—in an effort to raise life-long labourers and expose young people to full-time ministry work and missions opportunities.

All these, along with the stories you will find in this Thanksgiving Report 2024, are made possible only by God, our Redeemer. We give all glory to Him for what He has graciously done in and through Cru Singapore.

On behalf of the Cru Singapore team, I would like to express my deep appreciation to the churches and donors for your unwavering partnership as we trust God to make disciples everywhere. The challenges ahead are vast and complex, but we can undertake them with God's help and with your continued support.

Thank you for running the race with us in 2024. We look forward to another year of pursuing eternal joy together.

With gratitude and warm wishes for 2025,

*Heck Chye*



## In Pursuit of Eternal Joy

"You make known to me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures forevermore."

Psalm 16:11 (ESV)

# Memorable Moments



Crea Open Studio.



Cru Singapore's inaugural Golf Charity Drive.



FamilyLife thanksgiving event.



Healthcare Ministry mission team providing dental services at an orphanage in Manila.



SMU Cru Grill a Christian outreach.



Media Ministry's Grabook donation to Miracle Worchum Ministry in India.



SEND: a LeaderImpact and Campus Ministry partnership to equip graduating students.



The Significance Project facilitators' training.



Athletes in Action team at the Paris Olympics.



Operations team to the rescue—our lift is back and ready for use.

## Year in Review



More than

# 5,100

people exposed to the gospel through spiritual conversations and e-mentoring



Approximately

# 2,300

people impacted through events that seek to reach out, disciple, and bless



2,128

disciples engaged in various Cru Singapore ministries



801

mission trippers sent on #GO trips to 18 countries



58

partnerships and collaborations with churches and missions organisations



Almost

# 15,000

followers across Cru Singapore, ThriveSg and Kopi O Kosong's Instagram and Facebook accounts



More than

# 30,000

evangelistic resources distributed or donated



About

# 24,000

subscribers impacted through regular print and digital publications

# Blessed, and Now a Blessing

## How the Art of Marriage Models Itself to Be for Couples, by Couples

### A Thriving Community Dedicated to Give Back

Since its inception in 2015, the Art of Marriage (AOM) programme has become a mainstay for the FamilyLife Singapore calendar. With four course runs each year, the AOM ministry has seen many couples go through its doors, and subsequently leave with an elevated understanding of what a godly marriage entails. And of course, filled with more love... it is about marriage after all!

However, unbeknownst to some is the fact that majority of the manpower that goes into each AOM run comprises volunteers, and not full-time FamilyLife staff. In fact, there have even been runs where the entire team consisted of volunteers! These volunteers contribute in a wide range of areas to ensure a smooth-sailing facilitation of the AOM weekend retreat, such as logistics, photography, prayer, and more.

And by the grace of God, there has never been a lack of volunteers.

"At the end of each AOM retreat, we usually cast a wide net and ask participants if they would be interested in joining our community of volunteers for subsequent AOM runs," says Robin Khoo, FamilyLife staff and AOM event administrator. "What is truly remarkable is how willing participants are to give back to AOM. Some give their time, others provide for us financially, and some have even taken the extra step to bring AOM back to their churches to run the programme!"

"Today, we have a close-knit community of past-participants-turned-volunteers who meet up regularly outside of AOM. Some have even gone on holidays together!"



Robin (in grey) at prayer and sharing time during volunteers' meeting.



Allen and Jenny (standing) enjoying fellowship over dinner with FamilyLife staff and volunteers at AOM.

### From Participants to Volunteers

One such couple is Allen and Jenny, who have been married for 33 years and have been volunteering with AOM since 2019.

#### What motivates them to volunteer?

"It is really just relishing the opportunity to be a blessing to others," Allen shares. "We benefited from AOM as participants, and we were so touched by it that we wanted to be further involved."

At each AOM retreat, participants are brought through a series of videos as a starting base for discussion and reflection. These videos delve into various aspects of a godly marriage, such as its purpose, the roles a couple plays, and communication between a couple.

With over 15 AOM runs under their belt, both Allen and Jenny would have seen the same video series multiple times, and so a fair assumption would be that they are somewhat 'fatigued' by seeing the same thing at every single retreat. However, that isn't the case!

Despite the many repetitions of the same video, the couple realised that at each retreat, a different aspect or a new perspective from the video stirs within them and resonates strongly with them. As a result, they indirectly benefit from every AOM retreat they volunteer at, and this has only increased the strength of their marriage through the various seasons of life. This is often the case for most volunteers of AOM; through serving, their own marriages are strengthened as well, and it has allowed them to cultivate a thriving community of fellow volunteers that grow together in faith and marriage.

Volunteering at AOM has also been beneficial to both Allen and Jenny individually. For Jenny, a self-professed introvert, sustaining a conversation with others was a daunting task for her. However, with the community, she was able to break out of her shell, and form strong and deep friendships with fellow couples. This allowed her to not only grow more confident in striking up conversations with strangers, but even being able to share more personal thoughts with the people she is with.

On the other hand, Allen is a natural extrovert, and connecting with people is no issue for him. Rather, volunteering at the AOM is a fulfilment of God's calling for him; not only in being able to serve alongside his wife, but also in ministering to various groups of people, including couples at AOM.

Overall, the strong community of volunteers is one of the many reasons for the continued success of AOM.

By first participating and subsequently giving back, the entire AOM ecosystem has evolved and grown to be relatively self-sustaining, and in many ways, increasing the reach of its intended objectives. With every weekend retreat, not only do the participants benefit from the programme, but even its volunteers are blessed in many ways.

"On behalf of FamilyLife, I would like to express our deepest thanks to the many volunteers who have



Monthly meeting with AOM volunteers.



Fun outing with our volunteers and their families at Jewel Changi Airport.

contributed their time and resources to every single AOM retreat," shares Robin. "Their presence is very powerful, and them being so willing to come back to serve is testament to the overall message of AOM."

### Discover More

"Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labour." (Ecclesiastes 4:9).

We invite you to join us at AOM, invest in your marriage and be a part of our thriving community.

For upcoming runs of AOM, visit [cru.sg/aom](http://cru.sg/aom) or email [fl-reg@cru.org.sg](mailto:fl-reg@cru.org.sg) for enquiries.



Sophie (second row, in black) and her team to Kagoshima, spending time with church youths.

# Beauty from Brokenness

## How an Encounter with God Changed Sophie Chia's Life



Sophie and her Chiang Mai team enjoying dinner with their host.

### Struggling with Being in Charge

For Sophie Chia, growing up as the eldest child in the family meant shouldering a lot of responsibilities, such as helping her parents look after her five siblings. And even as she transitioned into adulthood and began working life, this same role of having to take charge and lead was something that followed her through a 25-year career in the corporate world.

"I was an introvert then, and I didn't like to share my struggles and thoughts with others," says Sophie. "All those years, I was just bottling up my anxieties and frustrations, and I didn't have an outlet to release and destress. All that was on my mind was that I had a lot of responsibilities to handle. I really did not manage my situation well."

Unfortunately, this weight took a toll on Sophie's mental and physical health, which led to a 5-year battle with major depression. Other than her psychiatrist, no one else knew about her struggle.

### The Turning Point

Strangely enough, Sophie's trips to her psychiatrist's clinic became a source of comfort for her. Even though she was not a Christian then, she enjoyed reading the various scripture verses that were printed on little trinkets around the clinic, and admitted that she felt at peace whenever she was there. Little did she know that this was the start of God's calling for her.



Sophie sharing her testimony during a Singapore Night outreach event in Kagoshima.

Not too long after, her mother passed away, and Sophie fell into another low point in her life. It was then that an acquaintance—who was a pastor—recommended her to visit a church near her home, and to speak with the pastor there who could offer her counselling and assistance. That church was Bethesda (Bedok-Tampines) Church.

"At the very first service I attended, I heard God telling me to just let my burden go, and reassuring me that He will take care of everything," Sophie shares. "It was very impactful, because up until then no one had ever reassured me that they would take care of everything, because I was always the one doing so. I felt the love and comfort that I was missing, and I knew that God was calling me." Sophie accepted Christ into her life that day.

### A Heart for the Nations

A few years later, Sophie decided to quit her corporate life, to allow herself a period of extended break to recover from the tolls and stress of working in the fast-paced legal industry that she was in. Naturally, this left her with a lot of free time on her hands; something that she was not accustomed to given that a large part of her life involved juggling multiple responsibilities and always moving from task to task.

During this period of navigating the next phase of her life, Sophie came across *The Significant Woman*, a life coaching course, by Cru Singapore, which she decided to join. From the course, Sophie was able to develop her own personal mission statement, and discovered that a part of God's plan for her life involved missions work.

Ever since 2023, Sophie had been on four mission trips with Cru Singapore, the first of which was to Chiang Mai, Thailand in March 2023, and most recently to Kagoshima, Japan in July 2024. During these trips, Sophie had the opportunity to be involved in a variety

of outreach efforts, such as sharing about her life and the goodness of God to a group of 15–18 year old students in Thailand, ministering to a group of women in Mongolia, and even learning how to exercise patience and reliance on God in the midst of a typhoon in Japan.

As she recollects her memories of these trips, it is evident that they have made a profound impact on her faith. She has also been able to share her passion for missions with her cell group and church mates, which is something she appreciates greatly.

### A Love for Japan

Throughout Sophie's life, and even before she became a Christian, Japan had always held a special place in her heart. She enjoyed many friendships with Japanese friends and acquaintances, including one of her best friends, who was a chef from Kagoshima. Whenever they met, he would often tell her stories of his hometown and Japanese culture, which intrigued her.

One such story involved the Japanese art form of *kintsugi*, which is the Japanese art of repairing broken pottery by mending the areas of breakage with gold, silver, or platinum.

As one may guess, the idea of *kintsugi* resonated strongly with Sophie because it was essentially an analogy of her life; being broken by stress and anxiety, and mended together by the golden grace and love of God. In fact, she still uses this same analogy whenever she shares about her life. And as Sophie looks back, she smiles with full confidence, knowing that, despite her brokenness—God had a plan for her—transforming those broken pieces into something even more beautiful.

### Discover More

For so the Lord has commanded us, saying, "I have made you a light for the Gentiles, that you may bring salvation to the ends of the earth" (Acts 13:47).

Will you take a leap of faith and join God's work in the nations, just as Sophie has done?

Short-term mission trips: [cru.sg/go](https://cru.sg/go)

Long-term missions and missions resources: [cru.sg/missions](https://cru.sg/missions)



Men's Ministry bonding over bowling.

# A Call to Step Up

## Championing Biblical and Courageous Manhood

by Hansel Canlas

### Bringing Men Back to the Word

Noel Orosa and Bernard Tan form the two-men team behind the Cru Singapore Men's Ministry's weekly devotions on social media (@familylifesingapore). These posts feature stories of men in the bible and how one can learn from them to be godly lovers and servant leaders in their families and communities today. The alumni-turned-volunteers create these devotions to amplify what men are learning from the *Stepping Up* series.

*Stepping Up* is a video-based small group study that calls men to courageous manhood. It is designed to help men grow in awareness of the purpose they are created for. The Men's Ministry believes that a growing relationship with God is the foundation of biblical manhood. As one's relationship with God strengthens, the desire to exercise godly leadership in the home, workplace, and communities, is naturally born. This can bring about the restoration of strained marriages, stronger family relationships, and formation of deep male friendships.

### God is on the Move as Men Step Up

Discipleship and mentoring are the building blocks of our ministry, while the word of God sustains it. Over time, more members of our alumni have stepped up to serve.



Ben facilitating the *Stepping Up* series.

One example is Ben Ho, who is now a facilitator, taking the initiative to connect with men beyond his own group to encourage them in their walk with God and commitment to biblical living. Thanks to Ben and the dedication of others like him, more than 400 men have been impacted by the *Stepping Up* series.

Our community also gathers for fellowship and mutual encouragement over games and life-on-life sharing. We see spiritual multiplication taking place as these men grow in faith and go on to invest in the lives of other men, trusting God to change the world one man at a time.

### Transformation in the Family

YZ, an alumnus, shared how *Stepping Up* redefined what manhood is for him and how the series served as his wake-up call. "I learnt that I am called to be the spiritual leader of my family. Having this understanding has undoubtedly helped in my family's spiritual life. Simple habits like reading the bible together as a couple and family is key to our everyday life." His wife, Rebecca, affirmed YZ and the efforts he is putting in, "YZ is still keeping up even after completing the *Stepping Up* series. As the leader of our family, he sets aside time for us to review our current year and plan for the year ahead."

We are grateful to God who forms the tapestry of our ministry for His glory and are excited to see what He has in store for us in the coming year.

### Discover More

"As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another" (Proverbs 27:17).

Will you answer the call to *step up*? Know someone who may find the *Stepping Up* series useful?

Find out more about Men's Ministry and *Stepping Up* series at [cru.sg/men](http://cru.sg/men) or email [familylife@cru.org.sg](mailto:familylife@cru.org.sg) for enquiries.

"From spending personal time with Fayth (Cru staff), to being with the mission team that came to South Korea, where I was on exchange, God used the Cru community to minister to me in many ways. He sent timely advice to me through Fayth, and brought me much strength and comfort through the mission team when I felt scared and lonely while overseas."

Phoebe Tok, SMU Cru Member

"My highlight is my discipleship group (DG)—Esther, Victoria, Lois and Faith. We've only known each other for a little over a year, but it feels much longer than that. Weekly DG sessions are times I look forward to, to grow spiritually, talk nonsense, laugh, pray and share life in a community like this. Thank God for bringing us to journey together."

Janice Ow Yong  
SMU Cru Member

"My highlight from being part of Cru is gaining a deeper understanding of what community and the body of Christ is. Through *BeyondBorders* (short-term missions project by Campus Ministry), guys' retreat and my discipleship group, I have learnt what community means, along with how to love, appreciate and contribute to it as well."

Isaiah Yeong  
SP Cru President

# From the Next Generation

For you are great and do wondrous things;  
you alone are God.

Psalms 86:10

"I was afraid of sharing the gospel, but I managed to *jio* my athlete friend out for a meal, where I shared my testimony and the gospel with him. I also blessed him with a book that I felt may be practical for him. Nicholas (AIA Staff) prepared me for that conversation and provided me with resources to handle my friend's questions. This experience has built my confidence in being a witness for Christ."

Jareth Poh, AIA Athlete

"I got to create impactful ThriveSg Instagram (IG) stories (@thrivesg.tribe) to equip young adults with psychoeducation and practical tools for better mental health. While researching and curating the content, I gained real insights into my own relationships, both with others and with myself. Seeing the positive impact our work had on young adults like myself brought immense fulfilment and reinforced my passion for making a difference!"

Preethi Krupa  
ThriveSg Social Media Volunteer

"I went on *Manila Medical Missions* (MMM) having doubts about what impact a ten-day mission trip could make. I learnt that, just like the little boy in Matthew 14, I can give my five loaves and two fishes faithfully, and God will multiply. MMM was just the beginning of a greater work that God is doing in my life. Not only is God using me for missions, God is also using missions to transform me."

Phoebe Sing  
Healthcare Ministry Project Director



# OUR MINISTRIES



Athletes in Action  
Singapore



Campus



Conference & Events



Crea



Digital Strategies



Faculty



FamilyLife Singapore



Healthcare



Humanitarian



JESUS Film



LeaderImpact



Media Ministry



Missions



Operations Hub



Postgraduates



Silver Ministry



The Significance  
Project



ThriveSg



Chinese Ministry

**TOGETHER, LET US MAKE DISCIPLES EVERYWHERE.  
EXPLORE OPPORTUNITIES AT [CRU.ORG.SG](https://cru.org.sg)**

## Cru Singapore

A division of Cru Asia Limited | A registered charity in Singapore

Co reg no: 197200238N, GST reg no: MB8100372-X

📍 18 Verdun Road #04-01 (S) 207280

☎ 6589 9600 📠 65899649

✉ [corpcomms@cru.org.sg](mailto:corpcomms@cru.org.sg) 🌐 [cru.org.sg](https://cru.org.sg)