



# Bringing Them Hope



February

“Constant stress is the new normal for college students” Dr. Lindsay Hoyt, Fordham University, 2021

Though 2021 is looking much like 2020, Christian faculty are ministering with hope for students:

## “My vulnerability opens doors with students”



On the first day of class this semester, Dr. Rob thought he should let his students know some important things about him:

- He was diagnosed last year with a debilitating disease;
- He would be slower in responding to emails and grading exams;
- He is a Christian whose faith motivates him to care;
- He knows this continues to be a difficult time for students.

“One student told me her brother had committed suicide over the Christmas holidays and we talked at length about this and the role of faith,” he said. “I think my vulnerability about my own illness led to conversations about life’s really hard situations that many students are facing.”

## “I’m showing God’s grace to students”



“I know students are struggling; now when they turn in their papers I am far more willing to give them the benefit of the doubt,” Dr. Lawson says. “I know how much harder it is for me to get everything done, and God deals with us in grace. My actions have led to conversations about God and hope.”

She lets her students know that she is a Christian, and that she is willing to help them in any way possible. She also leads a weekly Bible study for Christian faculty, where they discuss how to live out their faith and be a witness for Christ to students and colleagues.

## “I want to help professors live out their faith”



Massiel Vergara (*left*) leads the Cru campus ministry in Panama. Last week we met with her by Zoom as well as with a Christian professor she has been discipling. “I want to help professors like my friend Maddy be effective on campus,” she said.

We talked about how together they can equip other Christian professors at the Universidad Tecnológica de Panamá – the nation’s leading university. They have a number of Christian faculty who want to minister effectively to students. This month we have a newly translated Spanish edition of our guidebook for Christian faculty available free to any Christian professor in Latin America via a Spanish Cru website.

## “God used a verse this morning in my life”



On Friday mornings, North Texas Christian professors and administrative staff gather by Zoom for 30 minutes to share verses they are reading and pray for one another. It’s a great way to start the weekend – and be reminded of the hope in the One who brings life.

In the past two months we have worked with Christian faculty in Texas, Arkansas, Louisiana and Oklahoma. THANKS for making this possible.

*Steve and Sarah*