

February 2019

## The Unknown Speaker

*"You could go to the Cru Christmas Conference with us!"* Bob's cousin, Melinda, exclaimed once she learned their paths would cross during the coming holiday season. It was 1978. Bob was a high school senior and Melinda was a college student involved in Cru.



Within a few weeks, Bob and Melinda were sitting together with hundreds of college students in a ballroom at the Biltmore Hotel in Atlanta. Speakers included Josh McDowell, Bill Bright, and an unknown Kent Hutcheson. BJ Thomas provided special music (yeah, I know-we're dating ourselves!) It was Bob's first exposure to Cru and the vitality that can erupt when Christian college students gather for time in the Word, ministry training, and outreach. Little did Bob realize how much that unknown speaker would later impact his own life.

At the personal request of Bill Bright, Kent and his wife, Diane, went to the Philippines where they launched the work of Cru in Southeast Asia. They founded the Great Commission Training Centers that ultimately trained thousands to reach and disciple the world for Christ. Some of those students are pictured with Kent to the right. Henry (far left) joined Cru staff and has served in international leadership. Yang Chen (second from right) became a key ministry leader, went to medical school, and founded the Medical Strategic Network, a partner division of Cru. Khyriss (far right) became a leading pediatrician in the Philippines, founded a medical school, and lead the Cru Medical Ministry in SE Asia.



Much has happened since. Yang came to the US to train and practice medicine. He lead Medical Strategic Network. Eighteen years after Bob heard Kent speak in Atlanta, we began working with this same Medical Ministry. Kent continues to serve on our ministry Board of Directors. He has been battling leukemia for some 10 years and rarely leaves his home, but continues to be about kingdom work via the development of new online discipling tools called Discipleship Applied.



During a recent ministry trip to Colorado, Bob visited with Kent and recounted this story to him. It's truly a God thing that the "unknown speaker" that Bob heard as a 17 year old high school senior would still be contributing to our lives 41 years later. He has been an invaluable wise mentor in our lives and work.

We pray God uses us to raise more multiplying disciples like Henry, Yang, and Khyriss. We are grateful for your standing with us in this mission!

### Upcoming Events

**JOIN US!!!**

March 16-23 Dominican Republic Medical Mission Trip  
June 7-9 Whole Person Care Conference, Redlands, CA  
June 6-7-11 Whole Person Care Preceptorship  
June 28-July 7 Pre-Med/Pre-Pro Healthcare Student Mission  
October 4-5 Whole Person Care Conference, Tulsa, OK  
October 18-19 METS Whole Person Care Conference, Boston



*Bob & Diana*

A caring community passionate about connecting people to Jesus Christ