

THANKSGIVING 2020

Nate & Louise Johnson

*I will give thanks to you, Lord, with all my heart;
I will tell of all your wonderful deeds.*

PSALM 9:1



This past weekend, we said goodbye to David, one of our tenants, as he moved back home after completing ten years of service with the Air Force and Army. Before he left, we spent the day celebrating “Tenantsgiving”. We played family games of volleyball, baseball, Terraforming Mars & Splendor, and then enjoyed Thanksgiving dinner with all of the trimmings. It was such a treat to be able to spend the day together before praying for David and sending him off to his family and the next chapter of life.

A few weeks ago, David and I were talking about those of you who pray and make it financially possible for us to serve military people. He offered to give some insight into what it feels like being on the receiving end of that partnership. Here is what he wrote:

“And the King will answer and say to them, ‘Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me.’” Matthew 25:40

Since November 2019 I have been a tenant at the Travis Hospitality House. I am a geographical bachelor (my family lives in Washington while I am assigned to Travis Air Force Base) but will be returning to my family soon. Over this past year, I have gotten to experience both seeing the Johnsons in action and being a recipient of their ministry. While most people will remember the year 2020 for social events, medical pandemics, or natural disasters, I will remember many more encouraging moments shared here.

Looking forward to Friday nights became about much more than just reaching the weekend as I joined in the fellowship of Bible study each week. Breaking bread with a community of believers, followed by digging into the Scriptures, studying historical contexts, looking at life application, and singing worship songs together were strengthening encounters. Our time to meet for Men’s Study on Wednesday evenings was a special time to connect with other men, husbands, and fathers during our high-tempo



military work weeks. It was here I learned to show the “gospel gang sign” and completed a study that opened my eyes in self-reflection to continue preaching the Gospel to

myself every day. Getting to just hang out with the Johnson family and Seth (their Cadence intern) led to rewarding theological discussions on everything from witnessing to biblical canon, current culture, and leadership.

And then there is everything that comes with sharing your lives with each other for a full year at this property: being invited over for family dinners, movie nights, and kids' birthday parties. Playing backyard baseball, volleyball, and badminton, plus basketball in the driveway. Taking road trips, playing board games, eating all kinds of delicious baked goods, being introduced to falafel, completing "birthday present" toilet seat repairs, helping rearrange bedrooms, and lots of grounds maintenance.

If that was not enough, then there were the acts of service and advancing the Gospel in word and deed: helping families in need pack and move their homes. Doing

Vacation Bible School. Attending EquippingU nights. Watching the transformation of The Peak ministry to the young-adult Airmen. Giving generous hospitality and support to others who are either traveling through or just coming to visit—longtime friends, other missionary families, or chaplains and their families.

My time here has brought so much life back to some very dry bones. I am thankful that Nate and Louise were willing to take a chance and take in a stray, not just to share their home, but to share their lives. They were always there when I needed to talk about something personal, spiritual, or even just trivial. This place and these people have made all the difference to me. What an incredible blessing it is to have gotten to know this family. I am eternally grateful!

—Mr. David Weber

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. Amen.

CORINTHIANS 13:14

As we approach Thanksgiving, we want you to know just how grateful we are for your investment in the lives of military people. We are blessed to be able to be an extension of you to those we serve. We have come to the end of our goodbyes for this year and we have begun saying a lot of hellos. We are thankful for that too. More than anything, we are grateful to be part of a team that continues to allow us to share the gospel and our lives with military people. We pray that you have a happy Thanksgiving and are able to celebrate all that we have been given in the midst of 2020.

With Thanksgiving,

The Johnsons



Cadence
INTERNATIONAL®

800.396.6680
PO Box 1268
Englewood, CO 80150
Cadence.org

Nate and Louise Johnson

4534 Solano Rd., Fairfield CA 94533

Nate.Johnson@Cadence.org • Louise.Johnson@Cadence.org
Cadence.org/Johnson