

# Joe & Jill Vincent

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Glory to God

in the highest heaven,

and on earth *peace*

to those on whom his favor rests.

LUKE 2:14

## WHAT ONE WORD GOT YOU THROUGH 2020?

I choose a word each year to focus on. This year my chosen word was “TRUST.” In January, I had no idea what was going to happen in this year of COVID-19. “TRUST” was my word in action. JESUS is my rock, and as I TRUST Him daily, I’m getting through 2020.

If you know me, you may know my favorite life verses are Proverbs 3:5–6.

*“TRUST in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him and He shall direct your path.”*

I am not strong; apart from God, I can do nothing. God is my strength, my guide, and I put my TRUST in Him each day. This year started out with lots of goals, praying, and planning for the Hangar Hospitality House. We enjoyed a few visitors in January and February, and then the whole world closed in March.

We started out enjoying the time lingering in the Word and in God’s presence by taking daily walks and bike rides, as well as working on projects in the house and barn. But as the days turned into months, it was clear life was not going back to “normal” anytime soon. In the Spring, we went from Zoom/FB Live meetings, and then to weekly outdoor gatherings of 75 starting on the July 4 weekend. What a blessing to be back live and in person, fellowshiping with others.

In the Fall, the numbers decreased to 25, and then a mandate in October limited our gatherings to ten or less. We were all weary of the constantly changing regulations and started to get in a funk.

As Joe and I were reading the Bible and praying, we both had scripture passages that spoke to us. Joe shared 1 Corinthians 13:4–7 with me:

*Love...  
Is Patient  
Is Kind  
It does not envy  
It does not boast  
It is not proud  
It is not rude  
It is not self-seeking  
It is not easily angered  
It keeps no record of wrongs  
It does not delight in evil  
It rejoices with the truth  
It always protects  
It always trusts  
It always hopes  
It always perseveres*

We knew if we were going to live up to God’s standards, we must love well. And as you look at love in 1 Corinthians, the first element of love is patience. “Please help us, Lord” was our prayer, and it still is.

I was convicted to look at all the positive things we can still do, even in this COVID-19 Pandemic, and I shared Phillipians 4:4-9 with Joe:

*“Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer*

*and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.*

*Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable, if anything is excellent or praiseworthy, think about such things. Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me or seen in me, put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with you.”*

PEACE. We all long for peace in our hearts and minds. Only Jesus can make this possible as we thank Him daily and put our hope and trust in Him. I admit I have been stressed and overwhelmed, made mistakes, and had to ask for forgiveness, but through it all my faith is growing stronger and my time with God is getting better. I pray as you trust God you will find the peace that passes all understanding so you can get up each day and persevere. We do not know what tomorrow brings, but we know God is already there and we have nothing to fear.

TRUST God and be at PEACE as we live in this ever-changing world.

Gratefully,

*Joe and Jill Vincent*

## TESTIMONY FROM OUR FRIEND KATIE

I recently left Spangdahlem for my next assignment. While I was at Spangdahlem, the Hangar was a place of friendship, support, and encouragement. I made friends for life and learned more about how to love people more fully, and accept love from others. I was one of the few Catholics in the group, and Jill and Joe never made me feel like I didn’t belong (an experience I’ve had in other ecumenical groups).

I enjoyed the fellowship and the Bible lesson we learned every week. My week was always changed for the better, as I was able to focus my attention on my one, true goal in life—living the life that God has meant for me. Since leaving Spangdahlem, I miss all of these things that the Hangar provided and how I felt living and loving in a community, with a sense of belonging. I haven’t quite found it here, but I know that my Hangar family is still praying for me and my family, and we will find our new community.







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**Joe & Jill Vincent**  
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