

# Sneller Salute



Rebecca teaching at the women's conference

## Dear friends,

Rebecca here. I tried something new with our women's ministry this fall: a day-long conference designed to equip the participants with knowledge and skills for a particular topic. The idea itself wasn't new—it's something I've thought about doing for a few years now—but I felt this was a good year to try it based on various circumstances and scheduling details. I decided on the important topic of how to study the Bible. I figured it would be a fun way to kick off our weekly Bible study. It was a joy to organize and prepare for the day, and just under 20 ladies participated. It was incredibly satisfying, as I am very passionate about equipping others.

For one of those ladies, Elisabeth, it was her final Harbor event, as she and her husband are moving back to the States soon. She is a nurse who split her time between Okinawa and Guam, and she has been part of Harbor Women for several years now. I asked her to share her experience and thoughts with you all. As you read, rejoice in the "refuge and refinement" that Elisabeth found here. Thank you for making our presence among military people possible.

Much love and God bless,

**Rebecca Sneller**



Elisabeth and Rebecca

In a chaotic world, the Harbor is an oasis. I was first introduced to the Harbor Women's group in Okinawa, Japan several years ago and began following the group on social media. It was through the social media platform that I learned of the women's Bible studies offered through the Harbor and Cadence International. Since then, I have had the opportunity to participate in several Bible studies with the Harbor Women's group, and I have never regretted attending a study. In fact, each study ends with me wanting to participate even more!

The Bible studies with the Harbor Women's group, led by Rebecca, are spiritually challenging, convicting, and uplifting. I can honestly say that being part of the Harbor Women's group has been a highlight of my time

in Okinawa. Rebecca has the gift of teaching and leading the discussions in such a way that everyone feels safe, welcomed, and appreciated for sharing what God is teaching them through the study. The authenticity is so evident. I have seen growth in my own personal walk with Christ through my time with the Harbor Women, and I am so thankful for what God has done in my life through this place!

This month the Harbor Women enjoyed a fall kick-off with the theme of *How to Study the Bible*. The details that went into planning this conference were evident—from the welcome gifts to the uplifting and insightful teaching to the practical group exercises and the worship music—the conference was both God-honoring and spiritually challenging to me in my Christian walk. The conference

gave me the gift of a renewed desire to study God's Word (and a book to take home as well!).

As I prepare to leave Okinawa next month, the Harbor Women's group is one of the things I will miss the most about this island. Living overseas—far from family and friends—is not always easy, but the Harbor provides a place of peace and rest for the soul. It is through the women's

Bible studies at the Harbor that I have learned to "be still and know." As the transient military and expat community in Okinawa have come and gone, the Harbor has remained a constant. Thank you, Cadence International and the Sneller family, for providing a place of spiritual refuge and refinement in Japan.

**Elisabeth Collins**



**Cadence**  
INTERNATIONAL

**Deric and Rebecca Sneller**

PSC 80 Box 13901, APO AP 96367-0042

Deric: 090.2963.4063 • Rebecca: 090.6516.5053

Deric.Sneller@Cadence.org • Rebecca.Sneller@Cadence.org • Cadence.org/Sneller

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