

Rick & Paula

Serving with Cadence International

Scott

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“Thank you for supporting me along my internship journey and complicated life changes. I am so thankful that God brought me into your ministry, and I was able to grow so much. Ya’ll have been amazing mentors in my life and helped me navigate tough decisions . . . The experiences and lessons I’ve learned this summer have grown my faith significantly.”

These words fill my soul with encouragement. They came from my friend Ruth, who was part of our house community last school year and an intern with Cadence this summer. It is such a privilege to be part of the lives of students like Ruth!

The word “encourage” has a simple definition: To give support, confidence, or hope to someone. Doesn’t it feel easy to overlook and minimize the importance and power of this idea? Throughout the New Testament, it is tucked in here and there, asking us to do this for each other. It’s seemingly a small task we look past as we aim for “greater” work.

The Lord knows how much we need to be strengthened and supported in this world-wearying battle. When we look around, we feel like we are on the losing side. Since we live by faith and not by sight, we are easily discouraged and often feel a lack of support, confidence, or hope when we look with our eyes instead of our hearts.



But God hasn’t left us without the help we need.

Aren’t we all in great need of support, confidence, and hope? There is a temptation to believe that we are alone in our struggles. But God has given us his Son and each other to remind us.

These days, one of the greatest things we can do for one another is to give hope and courage. We want to do this for our students as they study, work, and look to the future.

How can we encourage each other?

Love the Lord * send a kind text * let someone know that you are praying for them * make a meal or give a gift card * send a note in the mail * notice someone's faithfulness and say so * talk about God's faithfulness to you * pay attention to how God was present to you today and tell your family * stand firm in your faith * love when someone doesn't deserve it * defer to another * be encouraged by the Lord yourself * forgive * listen to someone lonely * do something without expecting something in return * live in the joy of your salvation * be awed by the Lord's great love * mow your neighbor's lawn * give flowers to someone * remember that everyone needs strengthening * notice someone else's obedience to the Lord and share this with them * thank your pastor * hug a friend who is carrying a burden * smile.

Be encouraged, friends; the Lord is at work in our younger generations.

With gratitude,
Rick and Paula



PLEASE PRAY

- For Ruth, as she finishes her senior year and seeks the Lord for her future.
- For our seminary students preparing for future ministry. Ask the Lord to stir their affections as they learn more of Him in an academic setting.
- For our own hearts to continually be stirred in love and affection for the Lord.
- For our women studying I John to come to a deeper understanding and experience of God's love.
- For our Friday community group studying Hebrews 11, that our faith in God's goodness and plan would be steady and sure.



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Rick & Paula Scott

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