



November 2022

The Johnson Family • A Hope and A Future



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from our home to yours

It's really happening! We have officially been accepted by the sending organization, Cornerstone International (CI), to be sent as full-time missionaries to Honduras. Look at what the Lord has done and praise Him with us! Many of you remember how broken we were after two weary years on the field in Honduras. We didn't have the training, support, nor the resources needed to flourish cross-culturally. BUT GOD! He has made a way, healed our hearts and opened doors we never dreamed would open. We are so excited for what is to come and give Him glory as this redemption story unfolds.

Cornerstone International (CI) is a sending organization with over 50 years of experience. They have nearly 60 missionaries in 20 different countries. We chose CI because of their intentionality to encourage us and to invite us into their family. We are thankful for the support they have already given us and we feel blessed to partner with such a kingdom-minded organization. Their main focus is to cover us in prayer and help us, as a family, be the healthiest we can be before we leave and while we are on the field. We are surrendered to serve the Lord in Honduras and believe that being under CI will directly impact our productivity and longevity on the field. They will also be overseeing our finances, correspondence, training, counseling, and so much more. Please check out this video on their website: why.cimissions.org. You will also find our personal page on their website where you can see our newsletters and conveniently donate (cornerstoneinternational.org/johnson).

What will we be doing in Honduras?

We will be volunteer staff with the amazing ministry of GiveHope2Kids. This is a 16 year old ministry with a passion to empower Hondurans to care for and train up orphaned and abandoned children. We are so excited to join this Christ-centered and life-changing ministry. Though we don't know all the details of how we will serve, we know that each of us are called to Honduras for a specific reason. Ben will be the project manager, overseeing construction projects and hosting teams. Kelita will be busy homeschooling, using her gift of hospitality and making new friendships. As a couple we



hope the Lord will use us to disciple young people and also strengthen and support marriages. Zander has a passion for hydroponics, drone footage and using natural resources in creative ways. Selah has healing-in-her-hands and will no doubt, use her touch and sensitivity to comfort others. Haven will use her contagious smile and joyful wittiness to befriend those in our lives. Thaddeus and his high energy and bold personality will delight anyone he interacts with. What a joy it is to be called as a family to make the name of Jesus and the hope of His salvation known!

What's New in Our World?

Soon we will be in a tropical climate with very little seasonal change. This reality has helped us intentionally enjoy all the seasonal traditions and celebrations of fall and winter. Most importantly, we are spending as much time as possible with those we love so much here. In September, Selah turned 10 and ran in our town's annual 1 mile race, claiming 2nd place for her group. Ben and I celebrated 13 wonderful years of marriage. We put our house on the market and are eagerly waiting for the Lord to bring a buyer.



Our kids are doing great! Zander is loving 6th grade; especially science and band. Selah is growing and maturing into such a delightful young lady. She's excelling in 4th grade and is enjoying being a part of a local dance studio. Haven is always making us laugh and blossoming in 2nd grade. Thaddeus is our terrific 2 year old and constantly keeps us on our toes. The Lord is graciously ministering to each of our children as we process through all the changes. We are so privileged to be parenting such amazing world changers! What a joy it is to lead them into a deeper relationship with Jesus and to empower them to be all they were created to be.



"If we find ourselves with a desire that nothing in this world can satisfy, the most probable explanation is that we were made for another world." – C.S. Lewis

We are caught in a tug-of-war between the longing for the calling the Lord has on our lives in Honduras but also the joy and comfort we have for the life He has given us here in Morrison, Illinois. Only in heaven will both these longings, (along with so many others) be satisfied. We are grateful for the invitation to be intentional that our circumstances have ushered us into. As we join with our family and friends to celebrate the birth of our Savior and the salvation He has given us, we will celebrate lavishly and full of anticipation. Though we may not be here for the holidays next year, we look forward to new traditions and relationships in Honduras. Join us this year in focusing on giving our presence rather than focusing on presents. Join us in seeking opportunities to share the true reason for this

season. Soak it all in. Make the snow angels. Take time to hug people. Find space to encourage others. Let His generosity empower you. May we all, through our surrendered lives, invite His kingdom to come on earth as it is in heaven. We wouldn't be where we are today without your support, your prayers and your encouragement. It is humbling and exciting to invite others on this journey with us and we are so grateful for your willingness to join us. Thank you to those who are already supporting us on a monthly basis! May you feel His grace and strength upon you today and the days to come!

In May we are attending four weeks of cross-cultural training in Colorado. This is an intensive training for each one of us. In June we will drive from Colorado to Kentucky to spend two more weeks in training hosted by CI. **Our goal is to move to Honduras in July. The only way this will be possible is if we are fully funded.** We are confident the Lord will make a way and we are excited to see how He will provide. Our launch cost is \$20,000 and our monthly support goal is \$3600.

Thank you for prayerfully considering helping minister to those in Honduras! Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Support

Thank you for partnering with us through your gifts and prayers. To stand with us financially, visit cornerstoneinternational.org/johnson which links you to our secure donation site.

To donate through the mail, please send your checks to: **PO Box 192, Wilmore, KY 40390.** Make checks out to Cornerstone International and write **"A Hope and a Future"** on the memo line.

Reach us by email at Ben.J@cornerstoneinternational.org. We are always so excited to hear from you! Thank you for your generosity and partnership with us in seeing His Kingdom come and His will be done on earth as it is in Heaven!



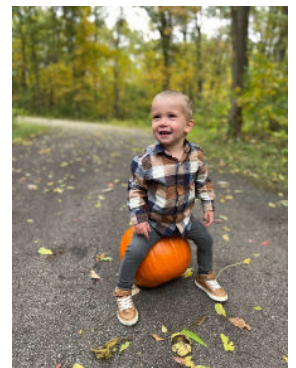
Zander



Selah



Haven



Thaddeus