



## Semester Summary

Har considers himself to be socially awkward and has found it difficult to make friends in the isolated conditions COVID 19 has imposed since he came to the US this year. That is why he enjoys Bridges - it is a non-threatening place where he can meet other people. And, in spite of the pandemic we have been able to have in-person meetings with a limited number of attendees as well as one-on-one appointments.

Our group meetings have included discussions on topics such as: dealing with anxiety in a COVID world, dealing with grief over loss of freedom or opportunities due to the pandemic, and having peace amid uncertainty. Interspersed among these serious topics we have had lighter social interaction opportunities themed around American culture and holidays.

Our Halloween party featured a costume contest and a pumpkin carving competition, and also included a talk about the origins of the holiday and how it has changed over the years.

The week before Thanksgiving we offered a home cooked, traditional American Thanksgiving meal - the components of which were generously provided by ministry volunteers and church friends. The meal was followed by an explanation about why the Pilgrims gave thanks, and more importantly to whom they gave thanks.



Pre-packaging Thanksgiving Meals

Then, last Friday we had a Christmas party. In order to comply with safety guidelines we have been given we had two separate parties, limited to 15 people at each of two different homes. Our hosts were a great blessing to us, as the students enjoyed getting away from the ordinary and visiting an American home. Each of the parties included a program of singing Christmas carols and hearing the story of the first Christmas - with an explanation of its relevance to each of our lives, now. In response to the opportunity to trust Jesus to save them from the penalty of their sin, no one indicated doing that, but several said they would like to talk to us more about Jesus, or to join a Bible discussion group. **Pray that the Holy Spirit would continue working in these lives over the Christmas break and through the Spring semester.**

The last time I had an appointment with Har I did a few magic tricks for him and then began sharing the good news . **Please pray for our meeting next week when I'll conclude the explanation of why Jesus didn't come to make it possible to be saved from the penalty for our sin - but to make it a certainty!**



I have a great team of people that partner with me monthly in prayer and in financial support. If you would like more information about joining my team, or to give a special end-of-year gift, please email me above or visit [give.cru.org/0255937](http://give.cru.org/0255937)