

Below is a transcript of the interview with Kris Nosworthy that took place in church on April 10, 2016.

**Tell us a little bit about where you grew up?**

*I am the youngest of three boys and I grew up in the suburbs of Sydney, Australia. Sydney is an extremely beautiful city that blends beach lifestyle and city culture. So it was a fun place to grow up going to the beach before and after school, camping trips and playing sports. My dad is a church pastor and I went to Christian Schools from Kindergarten-12th Grade, so Church has always played a strong role in our family's life.*

**What are some family traditions?**

*A lot of the traditions I remember from growing up revolve around family. We would go camping together for 2 weeks every October, I would spend a week at my grandma's house every school vacation, Saturdays were always dedicated to soccer following my two brothers and I around the state. We had a lot of similar Christmas and Easter traditions to many of you here - my mum would hide Easter eggs all around the house for Sunday Easter morning competitive hunts (especially when I was 16 and my brothers were 21 and 23).*

## **When did you move to the US? What was that transition process like?**

*I moved to New York in 2007 to play soccer and attend college. The whole experience was bitter-sweet. I had been looking forward to moving to America since I was in 9th grade. The first year was a long and at times rough one, as it is for many people going away for college. As I had grown up within a loving Christian family, I went to a Christian school and had great friends - being alone and having to fend for myself at a New York University was whole new experience for me.*

*My first Thanksgivings and Easters were spent alone in the dorms, but among my soccer team 16/24 players were from foreign countries and we were able to bond together. Having that connection with the guys who were currently in the same situation or had been there 2-3 years prior definitely helped. My first year I spent the majority of the time with 3 Brazilians and a Jamaican - which is unique.*

*It wasn't until my 3rd year of college that I had fully taken to US life, and then a few years later after I had met Meg.*

## **How is US culture different than Australian culture?**

*I've experienced a few different US cultures (New York, Minnesota) and Australia isn't too dissimilar. Both first*

*world countries are similar economically, politically and socially. However, there are some small differences that took me some time to learn or understand (and there's definitely still some that I don't understand):*

- We drive on the other side of the road (and car)*
- We don't really use driers - rather air dry our clothes outside*
- We are very water conscious due to the constant state of drought in Australia (you can water your garden on Wednesday between 6pm-7pm, you need to take a bucket into the shower to save water to wash your car)*
- Free WiFi is a myth*
- We like to abbreviate everything - so it can be hard to understand an Australian talking*
- Cost of living is higher - tips are included in the original cost and tax*
- Sport is the most important thing*
- We are very relaxed*
- Casual clothing truly means casual (shorts, no shirt and bare feet at the mall, grocery store or restaurant is totally fine)*

**Have you ever had an experience when someone treated you poorly because of a cultural assumption**

**they made about you or Australians? Have you ever experienced offensive cultural ignorance?**

*Australia is generally a much loved country. I would only say cultural ignorance thinking that Australia is Austria or asking if they speak English in Australia - but Australians are generally loved and accepted wherever they go.*

**How can New City be a place that better celebrates cultural difference?**

*Continue to be aware of the differences that separate us and celebrate the uniqueness. Our church is a great mix of culture, and this truly stuck out to Meg and I when we first visited.*