

Brethren,

As I sit to write this, we are experiencing our second snow storm of the year...Fall didn't hang around for long here in Montana! I'm not complaining, mind you; I love the winter/snow!

We continue to stay busy, having several studies per week in the community. I believe I wrote in my last report about my friend, Jim, who has created some legal trouble for himself over the last few months. I have been visiting him in jail for the last couple months, and having discussions as I can over a 30 minute visitation. However, he was recently released, and that has presented opportunities for us to sit down face to face and begin some study in earnest. He is going through the process of trying to give up alcohol and cigarettes...and perhaps his 2 months in jail where those were kept from him will facilitate his recovery. I believe he is really trying to learn and do better, so I am hopeful that I will have more opportunity with him in the days and weeks to come. Only time will tell in the end, but I have been able to spend several hours over the last couple of days with him, including about 4 hours in study this morning. I will try to take advantage of his current mindset to study with him as much as possible in hopes that he will see the truth and not lose the zeal for study he is currently showing. Continued prayers on his behalf (as well as for me) would be greatly appreciated.

We are now studying the book of 1 Samuel in our regular Wednesday evening bible study. Justin has been leading the discussion over the last several weeks focusing on the rise of Saul to be king over the nation of Israel, and his subsequent fall. It is amazing, and disappointing, to see a man with such potential evidently corrupted by the power of being king. Of course, God warned His people that all the things that Saul did would come to pass before they demanded the king...and yet they asked for it anyway. Far too frequently we ask for things that are not the best for us, instead of listening to God's will on the matter. Our Sunday study, [Walking Worthy of Your Calling](#) continues to go well. I have really enjoyed putting together the lesson materials for the study, and have enjoyed the discussions that arise each and every week. We are about 4 lessons into the topic (though each lesson takes multiple weeks to cover). These first 4 lessons have been a way to lay the foundation of the study we are hoping to do moving forward, as we talk about very specific topics of what Christians should and should not be involved in.

The two studies that we are continuing as community studies happen on Thursday evenings and Friday mornings. On Thursdays, we just finished up the epistles of John. We had

great studies in those letters, opening up good opportunities for deeper discussions. In these studies, we have not been working on a particular schedule, so we can have the chance to explore side discussions along the way. Since we have had no rush to get through, we spent several months in these epistles, along with all the interesting discussions that came with them. On Friday morning we have been reading and discussing the book of Romans. This study is less in depth, as we try to read and briefly discuss a full chapter in the book each week. This can be challenging, but I think it provides a good way to see how all of the information that Paul records in the book fits together. This helps to guard against pulling a few verses out of context to try and make a point that Paul never intended...which is so prevalent in the book of Romans in the "christian" world around us. Both of these have been enjoyable studies!

We were blessed this past month with some very dear friends who came to visit us. The Danny and Jen Hinkle from Bristol, Virginia came with their family and were able to stay for several days. Danny has been one of my best friends since the second grade, and he and Jen have been a great supporter of our work for many years. It was truly a blessing to have them in our home and get to spend some quality time with them, and show them some of our beautiful area. Not long after the Hinkles left for home, Wayne and Peni Teel visited us from Birmingham, AL area. Wayne and Peni lived near Charleston, WV when Cynthia and I moved there in January of 2000, our first "full time" work. Wayne and Peni have had a great influence on us over the years, especially in the way we try raise our children, and model our family. They have shown a great commitment to having Godly families, and have helped us with instruction and example that has benefited us greatly. They (along with our parents) are the folks we turn to when we have questions/problems when it comes to raising godly families! It was so good to see them again, and enjoy their encouragement in our home. Wayne preached for us on the Sunday that they visited with us, and presented an encouraging lesson for us all.

I recently received the link from brother Gray about the evangelism efforts that are being supported by the congregation there, and the notes from all of the men in the quarterly newsletter. It was very encouraging for me to read about all of the work that has been going on around the world because of your willingness to support gospel preachers. I am thankful to be one of those men, and honored to be entrusted to preach the gospel here in Bozeman. Thank you for all that you do, and the encouragement that you provide. May God continue to bless you all in these efforts!

*Now you Philippians know also that in the beginning of the gospel, when I departed from Macedonia, no church shared with me concerning giving and receiving but you only. For even in*

*Thessalonica you sent aid once and again for my necessities. Not that I seek the gift, but I seek the fruit that abounds to your account. (Philippians 4:15–17)*

Your servant,

Kris Brewer