

Monthly Support Report

August 31, 2019

Dear elders,

Greetings. It's my prayer that all is well with you and the good congregation there. Things are well with us and the congregation here. We are at peace, and the work continues to go well. We are progressing all for the Lord's glory.

We took some time off to take Aaron back to Florida College for his second year there. It sure didn't seem as though it was time for him to go back. The summer just seemed to go by so quickly. But thanks be to God we made the trip safely there and back. We enjoyed our time that we had with family in Atlanta before continuing on to Temple Terrace to Florida College. It's always good to see family. My mother is there. She will be 94-years-old this year. Leigh's mother is also there living in an Alzheimer's assisted living home. It's a very nice facility that takes very good care of her. It was good to be in town and to see everyone.

I'm in the process of putting together a counseling schedule and program for a young couple that worships with us that I just performed their wedding less than 2-months ago. Both are still in College locally and are doing really well. I baptized the young man a few months ago after a few studies, and after he and his now wife had studied as well. He is doing super as a young Christian. He has one of the best attitudes of a young Christian I've ever encountered. He wants to learn and he seems to absorb everything he reads and is taught. That's the type of College student he is as well, so I'm not at all surprised. He comes from a Catholic background. And from the very beginning that has never been an issue with him. He once told me that he and his family were Catholic, but he wasn't sure what that meant because they rarely ever attended any Catholic services or talked about their Catholic faith growing up as a family. He just knew that he had been told at one time that they were Catholic.

The program of study (which will include marriage counseling) I'm putting together for them will include new convert material, plus, things that will help them as a young married couple. Since they are both full-time students, and working about 25-30-hours per week, and working different schedules, the three of us will have to be flexible to make this work. I'm confident that we will be able to work it out schedule wise, and that together we will gain some good from our time together in the word of the Lord. We're all anxious to get started.

We've been blessed with some good additions in the past couple of months. We're very happy and blessed to see our number increase. It's our prayer that these new additions will be a great help to our work that we're attempting to do here.

Now that the children are back in school and we have new children in our midst we're readjusting our Bible Classes. With those readjustments comes new Bible Class Materials for those classes. In my opinion I believe the material that has been selected is an excellent choice and I'm excited for our new teachers to get started. I'm confident that each child that is a part of the class will greatly benefit from the study. A lot of prayer and effort was put into the selection of this new material.

I began a new series (short series) of sermons on Paul's epistle to the Ephesians just this past Sunday. This series will be relatively short. More than likely only 3-4-lessons. This Sunday's lesson title will be "Walk Worthy of Your Calling." A very simple lesson dealing with what Paul writes about in Ephesians 4.1-3.

In our Sunday morning Bible Class our studies have taken us to the Gospel of John and Jesus' Judean Ministry. To introduce this lesson in our series that we're going through I took the first lesson to talk about the Synoptic Gospels, Matthew, Mark, and Luke. And what makes John so different from those three. I guess "unique" would be the better word. I could have easily spent 3-4-class periods talking about the uniqueness of John's Gospel, but I just wanted to give the class an overview. Maybe at some future date we can take up this subject again as a class study. I find it to be a very interesting study and I guess I wasn't surprised to find that a vast majority of those in the Bible Class had never studied this before. I guess most don't stop to realize that Matthew, Mark and Luke are so similar in their approach while John's Gospel and his approach is so different.

We continue to focus attention on inviting our friends and neighbors to services. Our prayers include praying for "open doors" of opportunity for the gospel. We've tried to develop this mindset more and more as time goes on. This was even brought to our attention by one of our new families as they have heard our prayers and observed that it's important to us. That was encouraging to know that it's something that's observable.

I'll close for now. Being gone some during the month of August taking Aaron back to FC kind of took me away from here for awhile and I'm attempting to get caught up once again now that I'm back. I'm working hard to get the studies ready for the young married couple.

Thank you for your continued fellowship in the Gospel. As always it's greatly appreciated and so very helpful. Thank you so much.

God bless.

Randy