

Dear Brothers & Sisters,

I pray for all of you. I know that this year has been difficult for all – whether dealing with coronavirus, racial unrest, political unrest, or all of the above. Through each of these issues, I continue to be reminded and encouraged by the truth that the Lord is on His throne. My prayer is that we can all keep this in the forefront of our minds.

Christians in Boston

Policarpe is one of the young Christian men who worships with us in Boston. He is one of the most joyful people I have ever met – always ready with a smile, a hug, and a kind word. The spiritual growth of Policarpe over the past couple of years is truly astounding. When we first moved here, his priorities were not always spiritual. However, he recently made the decision to begin growing, and the Lord has blessed his efforts. He has put



more time into reading and studying God's word. As a result, the Lord has been giving him wisdom for how to navigate difficult situations, from job loss to family issues. He has begun prioritizing spending time with his Christian brothers and sisters, and the Lord has blessed him with family who build him up. He has put energy into growing as a helper in our congregation, and the Lord has blessed this as well. He has grown into one of our regular worship leaders (whether song leading, Lord's supper talks, prayers, etc.), and a couple weeks ago, Policarpe preached his first sermon for our group from the book of Jonah. It is powerful to see the Lord working in his life. I am so proud to say that he is my brother!

Weather changes become a lot more noticeable when you worship outside every week. We realized the other day that our congregation has endured over 50 degrees of difference in our time together of worshiping outside (mid 90's in the summer to now mid to low 40's). We have gone from chasing the shade to get away from the hot sun to now being covered up in jackets, hats, scarves, and blankets. The fact that we are still having to meet outside has been frustrating, but it has also been a tremendous

blessing. It is frustrating because we have been in talks with the hotel for about two months, but because of the COVID restrictions we have yet to be approved to rent the space. However, this time of waiting has been a blessing because we are all still worshiping together. Despite being uncomfortable at times, having to deal with frequent technical difficulties due to Zoom, and the general unknown from week-to-week, everyone has maintained an overall positive attitude with a desire to preserve unity. It's also been incredible to see God answer our immediate prayers to hold off the rain on Sunday mornings. Just last week it was forecasted to rain Sunday morning through our entire time of worship. However, the rain held off until just 5 minutes after our services ended. Incredible! Our God is so awesome!

Personal

Early in the month, our family was blessed to go on a camping trip to Laurel Hills State Park in southwest Pennsylvania. We went camping with the Dial, Dobbs, and Starr families. We have several special connections with these three families. Number one is that we are all close-ish in age and have children who are also close in age. Secondly, we are all Christians. And third, all four of our families have lived and worshiped in Boston. The Dobbs family helped to begin the work in Boston when they moved from Alabama in 2011 for Justin to work as an evangelist here. The Starr family joined the group about a year after it began, providing a rock-solid foundation and strong workers for the church during their time here. The Dial family lived and worshiped with us in Boston over the past year (2019-20) and were indispensable to the church during their time here. This trip was much needed for our family. Hannah and I needed to be strengthened and encouraged by these incredible Christian men and women. Our girls needed bonding and play time with these children, with whom they have become good friends. We all needed time away from the city to be out in nature. Our mornings were spent in Bible study together. Our afternoons were spent hiking and seeing the sights of the area. Our evenings were spent eating and singing hymns around the campfire. I'm so thankful for the refreshment that we received

from our special brothers and sisters! I'm thankful that the Lord used his people to be a blessing to me and my family!

To God be the glory in all that He has done!

His Servant,

Kyle Bennett

kyleabennett@gmail.com

457 Quarry Street Quincy, MA 02169

(214) 587-5629

