

THE BOZEMAN REPORT

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Then Jesus said to them, "Follow Me, and I will make you become fishers of men." (Mark 1:17)

It seems that every time I sit down to write this bimonthly report, I reflect on how quickly time is passing. We are quickly approaching the end of 2018, and time is certainly not slowing down at all. We have arrived at winter, and are preparing for several months of snow and cold. This is no complaint on my part; I love winter and the snow!

Continuing Studies...

We continue with various studies throughout the week, using our MeetUp group to advertise. We have been doing at least a couple of MeetUps per week in which we are simply reading a passage of scripture and then using that to jump start a discussion. We were studying the book of Acts in one of our studies, but since we have lost the regular folks that were joining us, I have put that study on hold. I am hopeful that we will once again get some regular participants, and I will get back to that study. Justin has been able to continue a regular study with a young man named Chad for several weeks now. This has been a promising contact that we continue to pray will end with a good result.

I am continuing the class *Study to Show Yourself Approved*, a study about how to study the Bible. Recently, we have spent quite a bit of time examining the concept of covenants in the scriptures. The premise of this part of the study is to begin to answer the question: What in the Bible applies to me? I am convinced that the answer to this question is rooted in understanding how God gives a covenant to mankind, and what He expects under those covenants. I have enjoyed putting this material together, and find it to be very challenging.

Justin is continuing with a study about How We Got The Bible on Wednesday evenings. This has been a great study as well. Justin has done very good job of putting together a lot of material that provides good confidence in the scriptures that we have. I have enjoyed the discussions that have been sparked in this class. We have examined many challenging topics, which has been greatly beneficial in building faith.

Visitors...

We've had a couple of significant visitors over the last few weeks. First, we were blessed to have my parents visit with us for a few weeks. One of the things we enjoy doing as a family is hunting, and this year my dad was able to visit with us to spend parts of the last couple of weeks hunting for antelope and elk. It was great having them visit with us, and get to spend some time in the woods with Dad. We also were blessed to have him preach for us a couple of times while he was in town. It is always encouraging to us to hear him speak.

We also had a visit from Mike and Christy Phillips, who have been working in Cambodia for about the last four years. They have a son who is in need of some medical treatment that he will receive in Helena, Montana, over the next few months, so they are planning to move here for that time. We are looking forward to having the Phillips family with us for a while, and pray that their involvement in the work will serve to add a spark to it. We have already been encouraged by their excitement for the work in this area. I believe they will be a big help both to encourage us, and to provide more members in the community to spread the gospel. Just adding 4 more adults will essentially double our "reach" into the community. And because the Phillipses are well

Kris And Cynthia Brewer

Kris and Cynthia Brewer

327 Coulee Drive
Bozeman, MT 59718

Phone: 406-539-3760

Email: kris@learngodswill.com

Web: <http://www.learngodswill.com>
<http://gallatinvalleycoc.com>

Blog: <http://kris.learngodswill.com>

Average Attendance:

Sunday: 13

Wednesday: 12

experienced in evangelism, we believe their help will be very effective. After talking with them, it seems we have very similar philosophies about the nature and implementation of the work. We are very excited for these new possibilities.

We also had a family, the Joneses, who came through from around St. Maries, Idaho (up in the panhandle of Idaho). They had contacted me a few months ago when they learned about our work here. I was glad to hear about their work. With sound congregations so few and far between, it is exciting to hear about small works that are also in difficult areas, with brethren working hard to share the gospel message. We are hopeful to get a chance to drive up to Idaho and visit with the brethren there at some point. We had a great visit with the Jones family, and enjoyed having them worship with us!

Sermon Series...

Both Justin and I have been working through different series of sermons recently. He has been preaching on *the Fruit of the Spirit*, while I have been preaching on Jesus' *Sermon on the Mount*. I will probably continue this series through the end of the year.

Family News...

Everything continues to go well with our family. At the first of next month, we will celebrate Shella-Marie's first birthday, which is hard for me to believe. We will also celebrate

JonDavid's 11th birthday later this month. I've been told to not blink or the kids will be grown, and it seems that idea is true. We've been fighting an annoying cold over the last few weeks. It is one of those things that seems to get passed around from person to person.

Jacob will be making a trip to Atlanta for 4-H later this month. He won the opportunity to attend National Congress by winning a speech contest (Illustrated Talk). This was his first attempt at writing and presenting any kind of public speech, yet he won the local, and then the state competition with it. He is very excited about the opportunity and has spent quite a bit of time preparing for his travels. He is also looking forward to meeting with the church in Atlanta, and visiting with some folks that visited here a few months back. This is a great opportunity for him, and we are proud of his accomplishments.

In Closing...

Thank you all so much for your interest in our work here, and the support you provide for us to be able to do it. Please keep praying for our efforts, and especially the contacts that we currently have. As always, we pray that the studies we have will develop into conversions.

We pray for the work that you all do in the Lord's kingdom. May your efforts be blessed by Him!