



Dear Brothers & Sisters,

Thank you for your continued support of the Lord's work in Boston. We are encouraged by your emails, prayers, and partnership. You are essential to our work here.

Work of Evangelist

Acts 28:24 – “And some were convinced by what he said, but others disbelieved.” I feel like this verse summarizes two responses to God's Word that I witnessed this month. The first comes from a study I have been having with Liz, a woman I mentioned to you a couple months ago. As I explained previously, Liz often found her belief system to be in conflict with the truths she found in Scripture. Liz and I have recently been studying through the book of Isaiah along with one of our Christian sisters, Sybil. Liz was struggling with Isaiah because it challenged her understanding of God. During one particular time together, Liz made the decision that she didn't want to study with us anymore and left in the middle of the study. After Liz left, Sybil and I discussed what had just happened. It was fairly clear to both of us that Liz was not willing to see God's Word for what it actually says. She was ignoring the Scripture right in front of her in order to preserve her own thoughts and beliefs. It is easy to get discouraged when someone decides to stop studying, but I have tried to remind myself that this is not about me but about the Lord. This was also a good reminder for me to be humble in my study of Scripture. I can easily fall into the same trap that I saw Liz fall into, if I am not willing to see the truth that is right in front of me. I need to be willing and not afraid to be challenged by God's message. I need to humble myself to be more concerned about understanding Him than keeping my own beliefs intact.

However, just two days after Liz quit our study, I saw a different response to God's Word. Al is someone I met (virtually) a few months ago, and we have been studying ever since. Honestly, I struggled through our first few studies together. Al has a strong personality, and our Bible study early on felt more like an argument than a conversation. But after a few weeks the study evolved, and we began to have fruitful discussions. One particular Wednesday, we began studying the Beatitudes (Matthew 5:1-12). I shared with him that I see the Beatitudes as the character traits of the citizens of Jesus' kingdom. As we were discussing this idea, Al paused and said something like, “This goes against my Calvinist background, but I see that this is what the text is saying.” I greatly appreciated his humility to think and say that. Al has been a good example for me, and our Bible study has become a time that I find encouraging.

Please pray for both Liz and Al. Pray that they will continue to seek the truth and come to God's word with humility. Please pray that the Lord continues to use me to show His Word to those who need to hear it.

Christians in Boston

We were saddened this month by another one of our families moving away from Boston. Oscar & Alejandra Rodriguez – along with their sons Jacob & Esteban – joined our congregation over a year ago and quickly became a huge encouragement for our group. They were instrumental in building up our Spanish work. Oscar spent a lot of time teaching us some basic Spanish, so that we could lead songs and pray in Spanish with understanding. Oscar and Alejandra both worked tirelessly in teaching Bible studies and translating our worship services. They are leaving a big hole in our group. We thank God for the time we had with this family, and we are prayerful that their move to Atlanta will be just as fruitful for God's kingdom as their work was here in Boston.

It feels like a broken record, but it is our reality at this time. Our congregation has still been meeting outside in the Hudgins' backyard. However, it is becoming obvious that this will have to come to an end soon. New England in winter is not conducive for outdoor worship.

Personal

November is a month of birthdays for our family. Olivia, Abigail, Barnabas, and Hannah all have birthdays this month. To celebrate Abby & Livy's tenth birthday, we spent the afternoon at Plimoth Patuxet in Plymouth. This is a living history museum (in which people are role-playing the lives of actual individuals who lived in the past) dedicated to the pilgrims and the Wampanoag natives. It was a lot of fun and educational to learn how both of these groups lived during the early 1600s. We were thankful for the time that we could spend together as a family and celebrate these special girls!

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

His Servant,

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