



Dear Brothers & Sisters,

Thank you for joining us on our journey with the Lord in Boston. We could not be doing this work without your support, prayers, and encouragement.

Work of Evangelist

I want to give you all an in-depth look at our virtual Bible study. As a reminder, this is a community Bible study I am hosting on Zoom every Thursday. Currently, we are studying through the book of Romans. We are using Facebook advertisements to reach out to the community in and around Boston. The Lord continues to bless this effort with tremendous responses to the advertisements. Currently, we are averaging around 12 non-Christians in the study, most of whom join every week. These studies are very interactive. We begin with a prayer asking for wisdom, then I call on someone to read a section from the Bible. The sections are usually based on paragraphs/complete thoughts in the text (roughly 12 verses in length). Then, I have prepared discussion questions to help the group dig into the message of the text. My hope for the discussion is for everyone to wrestle with the Scriptures together and share their understanding of the text. When appropriate, we also try to pull out applications to our daily lives. Due to the diversity of group, these discussions can head many unexpected directions. However, everyone is very respectful and loving towards each other. It is my task to make sure that we are sticking within the context of the Scriptures that we just read.

Here are a couple of example discussions and highlights from our study this month. During one class, we studied Romans 12:9-21. This section focuses on how Christians are to love one another (other Christians), and how they are to respond to those who mistreat them. The class did not go anything like I had planned, which ended up being a good thing. I began the discussion by asking a question about the teaching on how to love one another, but the section about how to treat our enemies was much more apropos for the group than I had anticipated. The conversation immediately turned that direction, so I stuck with it. Many people shared difficulties they had with this teaching. They shared painful experiences that made it challenging to show love towards their enemies. But together we read and understood through this passage that we are instructed to do the difficult task of loving our enemies and not being overcome by evil. One woman shared that she had been raped when she was younger. She gave a beautiful testimony to the power in God's word, stating that her life was able to change when she finally decided to forgive her offender.

In another class we had a long discussion about Romans 13:11-14, particularly the idea that we need to “make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.” One of the men shared about his past struggles with alcoholism. He explained that he was able to overcome his addiction after a friend had shared a Bible with him.

Please continue to pray for this study and the souls who are joining.

Christians in Boston

I mentioned last month that Hannah and I were doing a marriage study with Ben and Tori. Tori has been a part of our congregation for around a year and a half. She showed herself to be an incredible worker from the first day we met her – literally picking up the chairs after worship as a visitor. She has been a tremendous asset to the group, from showing regular hospitality to creating an email list for the congregation. She met Ben when she had been visiting the Tyngsboro congregation (a church located about an hour north of Boston). They were married late last year, and they have decided to join with our congregation as a family. I know that this was a difficult decision for them, because Ben grew up going to Tyngsboro and his family still worships there. Hannah and I really have enjoyed studying personally with them and getting to know Ben better. We are excited about the opportunity to work with them and watch them grow in their relationship and their work for the Lord.

I mentioned about a year ago that our congregation was beginning to look for a second evangelist to come work with us. COVID threw a pretty big wrench into those plans, so we decided to put a pause on trying to find another worker. However, now we feel a little more settled in our situation and are resuming our search for someone to come join us in Boston. Please pray for us to have wisdom and bless these efforts.

Personal

Our family is doing well. Here’s a little update on each of the girls from this month. Olivia and Abigail are writing an historical fiction story about teenagers fighting in World War II. Emily performed in a second piano competition. Sarah is growing a deep love for plants and flowers. She greatly enjoys helping Hannah tend to our indoor plants and has stars in her eyes with each new spring blossom in our yard.

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

His Servant,

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