



Dear Brothers & Sisters,

Thank you for your continued interest in our work here in Boston. We are constantly amazed at the blessings we've received over the years. Your love and generosity are a source of strength for us.

Christians in Boston

A growing blessing for the church in Boston is the number of children in our group. Five years ago there were 5 children, and now we have 24 children ranging in age from 6 months to 14 years (with two more on the way!). With this growth, we have decided to add a third kids' Bible class to give our teachers more manageable group sizes and age ranges. We have also been re-evaluating our teaching curriculum, to ensure the material is age appropriate. The new classes and changes have required a lot of effort from the women in our congregation. It is a blessing to see the hard work many put in behind the scenes to build up the future of the Lord's kingdom.

Another blessing we've witnessed over the past few months is the spiritual growth of Angeles – one of our newer Christians. Since becoming a Christian, she has faced many difficulties and discouragements that could have led to her giving up on her walk. Yet, through these trials, Angeles has been growing stronger in her faith.

Hannah and I have seen her boldly stand for the truth within her own family. We are seeing a hunger for God's word grow within her. She is such a giving and loving woman, and we are thankful to the Lord for His work in her heart!

Work of Evangelist

At the end of the year, Vinay and I finished teaching the adult class through the book of Hebrews. Teaching with Vinay was enjoyable as we constantly bounced ideas off each other to make the class better. We wanted to overcome something that can easily happen while teaching a Bible class – focusing so much on the details and losing the big picture. So, we decided to find a theme for the entire letter and point to it every class. Thankfully, we found the theme stated clearly in Hebrews 12:1-2, so we decided to make it a memory verse. It was motivating to see



Cousins singing!

everyone embrace the memory verse and repeat it with us during class. Continuing to run with endurance the race before us, setting aside every weight and sin, and looking to Jesus who perfected our faith and is now seated at the right hand of God is a message we all need to hear while we live in a world constantly pulling at us to give up.

This quarter, I am teaching the older children's class (ages 8-13) through the entire story of the Bible. The goal is for the kids to see that the Bible is one big story of how God works to bring mankind back into a close relationship with him. I have found looking at the big picture of the Bible story useful when teaching adults for the first time about the Bible. Many people I have studied with have not realized that the Bible is one epic story of God acting to bring the crown jewel of his creation back to live with him.



Emily & Clara Cook

To help structure this class, I am using the 17 time periods created by Bob & Sandra Waldron. The children have been learning these time periods in their Bible classes for a while now, which is great because they help me when I mess up. We have also translated the time periods into Spanish to help our Spanish-speaking Christians in their Bible study. For those who aren't familiar, the 17 time periods provide a framework to keep the historical timeline of the Bible in order, which can often be confusing, especially for those who aren't as familiar with the Bible. We have found these time periods to be a great tool to help with that struggle. Now, when bringing up a character or event in teaching or preaching, I can connect it with the time period, which allows everyone to know immediately where we are in the historical setting of the Bible.

Personal

Our family spent the holidays in Boston. We watched movies, played games, and put together a difficult puzzle (which covered our dining table for over a week). It was also a blessing to spend time with the Alperfs – which now only requires a 10-minute drive instead of a 4-hour flight.

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

His Servant,

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The Final Blitz to Finish!