



Dear Friends,

I am humbled and thankful that you would pray for our ministry here in the Pacific Northwest. The cool rains have begun. We still seek a harvest of souls; and, we search though we may be in the gleanings in the corner of the field. Abounding Grace Baptist Church has had a steady string of visitors lately, and a few people have been finding our church web site. We have had a former Catholic of Filipino descent attending for a couple of months. She said that this was the only church that she has been excited to attend. She knows that she has much to learn. I'm not certain that she is truly saved yet. Also, there have been visitors from South Korea and Singapore. One fellow from Singapore left the Charismatic movement, a false understanding of tongues, CCM, and a false version of the Bible after he became a true follower of Christ. He was then baptized in Singapore back in February. I'm used to catching and cleaning my own fish. [Yes, I realize that it is God that really catches and cleans us.] However, with this fellow, it seems that we are to teach him the next level of Christianity. I'm praying that he will very soon develop a desire to minister to other souls around him. Speaking of growth, I was recently encouraged that one of our number was challenged by my push for our people to memorize more Scripture. John has memorized 52 verses in a year; and, he has maintained them. John is now one of our most active members and is a big help to me on Sundays.

Also, I visit David in the forensic hospital in the afternoon some Sundays. I go over the morning message and I pray with him. It seems that he was able to lead one of his fellow inmates/patients to the Lord by using a tract. I'm supposed to get him a Bible to replace our new brother Ron's New World Translation.

After a morning service, Mike, our Persian gentleman, asked who the "son of man" is. I tried to explain, but he asked me to teach on it sometime. In the main service on the next Sunday, I taught on Jesus being both the Son of God and the Son of man. I do not think that Mike was able to grasp it as much as I had hoped. Please, pray for his understanding to be opened.

On a personal note, Angela and I just celebrated 20 years of marriage; Micaiah just turned 7; Nathaniel just turned 4; and I just turned old (j/k), only 46. More good news is that my kidney stone has been moving through my system, which means that it is dissolving or breaking apart. Some days I have less pain and pressure. I'm drinking a lot of rose hip, hibiscus, and nettle infusions (tea). I'm adding more B-vitamins and taking more salt out of my diet. I must get rid of these stones, as they really get in the way of ministry and family!

Do pray for Angela to have strength and rest. She home schools Micaiah, and raises two other ornery boys, takes care of household chores, and helps with a few church things like nursery and teaching Sunday school.

Again, we very much hold your prayers in holy regard. We love you as Brothers and Sisters in the Lord. May His grace and peace grow richly in your hearts until you have to export some to neighbors, friends, and family.

Serving the Lord,

Pastor Jonathan Oehlert

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