

June 30, 2023



Dear Praying Friends and Supporting Churches:

Last prayer letter I asked folks to pray regarding sanctification issues in our group. The Lord answers prayer, and we are seeing progress in every situation. Thank you for praying!

I take consolation in several truths in leading these saints. (1) The Lord's sheep hear His voice. Sheep have an appetite for Scripture, and believers receive truth. O the wisdom of Scripture's requiring a regenerate church membership! (2) The Lord knows His own. Because He does, He works toward their sanctification and loses none. (3) True sheep follow Christ. Believers will have their ups and downs, but they persevere. I am so thankful that the Lord gives grace to teach and preach His Word and to lead the flock of God.

I also asked folks to pray for more men, that we might send forth laborers into the harvest. The Lord is answering those prayers! In the last two months, I have had abundantly numerous opportunities to preach the gospel to men. At the store, in our neighborhood, going door-to-door—the Lord has opened the door to evangelize men. Let me give you a few examples. In early May, I went to the shoe store near our church building and began chatting with the salesman, David. He said that he attends the American Baptist church in town but doesn't think he is saved. For the next 20 minutes, he listened as I gave him the gospel. Not one customer walked in until the end of the conversation!

A couple of days ago, Dylan and I went door-to-door and met Greg. We preached the gospel to him, and he said that he wants us to come back to talk more about it. About a month ago, one of our men, Carlos, went to the DMV, and a young man in his late 20's came and stood behind him in line. They struck up a conversation, which turned to spiritual things. Carlos gave him a gospel tract and invited him to church. John-Henry is his name. He has come to church several times. He made a vague profession of faith as a teenager, but his life does not bear the fruit of repentance. We have spent several hours one-on-one with him teaching him about repentance and what it means to believe in Jesus. Please pray for John-Henry.

On a personal note, my wife's father, Dan Larsen, has been diagnosed with lung cancer, which is taking its toll on him physically. Praise the Lord that Dad is saved! He received Christ in 2003, largely due to the faithful testimony of his wife Francie. Please pray for the Lord's grace in his life. Cathy went back to South Dakota for a couple of weeks in May to spend time with her parents. As a family we plan to visit them this summer.

At the end of Ephesians 3, Paul wrote: *"Now unto Him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us."* That is how we think of what the Lord is doing in our own lives, and of what He is doing in the lives of the people at Jackson County Baptist Church and in the Medford area. Praise be to God!

We thank you for your prayers and care. May the grace of our Lord be with you as you continue to serve Him.

Sincerely in Christ,

Dave and Cathy Sutton
Church Planters
Medford, Oregon