



January-February 2019

Dear Pastor, Church and Praying Friends,

MY SPIRIT-FILLED SOULWINNING PARTNER!

January and February have been a time of great momentum gain in the work at Pinon. One of the benchmark blessings is that I have secured a faithful soulwinning partner to knock doors with me on Friday mornings. I've been praying and putting forth challenges to the church for a man willing to witness with me on a weekly basis in the community. Bro. Larry Chee, a former drunkard who lost his leg after passing out with one leg draped over the railroad tracks, stepped forward and said, "I'll go with you, Pastor!" It's been a blessing, as I do most of the soulwinning, to see the Holy Spirit lead Bro. Larry at times to step in and share his testimony in Navajo. This dear man weeps every time he witnesses and has a such a genuine sense of urgency for the lost that I leave every house where he has spoken with a renewed fire myself! So far we have seen one adult man saved and two visitors in service as fruit for our labor together! Amen!

"I DO" TIMES TWO!

Other highlights of recent months include two dear couples making their relationships right with God and getting married! One couple, Ryan and Keona Robles, have been attending church off and on for eighteen months. Recently, they have become very faithful to every service. Both were saved during services at Strong Hold Baptist Church and just this past Saturday their two children watched them submit to Biblical mandates for a marriage commitment! Another couple who have been attending for eight months, Myron and Olivia Jimmy, conformed to God's desire for a marriage commitment before their six children! Myron and his brother Edmond both accepted Christ as their Savior in January of this year and Olivia was saved last year in June during our first service in the new building at Pinon! Praise God for how he is molding young families for God who have a second generation that we can prepare for Christian service! Amen!

FRUIT FORTY YEARS LATER!

For years I have promoted the truth that ministry requires the same process everywhere. In every area there is a need for plowing, planting, watering and then God gives the increase! We are ministering during a stage of increase among the Navajo often harvesting and enjoying the blessings that have been purchased through the blood, sweat and tears of those who have served before us with little immediate or visible fruit for their labor. Last week I was reminded of this truth as I came to the door of a gentleman who claimed to have been saved under the ministry of an old, Independent Baptist missionary who ministered on the New Mexico side of the Reservation. This gentleman gave a detailed testimony of salvation at age sixteen and said he even preached a time or two! At eighteen, he joined the Airforce and departed from the faith during his time of service. He moved to Pinon, where he married, settled down and raised a family never to darken the doors of a church again for forty years. That is, until this past week, he came to Strong Hold Baptist Church in Pinon! After service he said, "I want to begin studying my Bible again. My wife is traditional, but I told her, I was baptized a Baptist and that's where I should be worshipping God." Amen! The encouraging thing about this whole encounter is that the missionary, Bro. Charles Massey, went all those years perhaps thinking that this man was another failed attempt to disciple a servant for God. Little did this faithful saint know that hundreds of miles away in Pinon, AZ God would raise up a church and his labor in the life of a teenage boy would not end in vain. He would finally experience fruit forty years later! I'm not certain how this gentleman's story will end, but I thank God for the reminder, that the Seed of His Word continues to work beneath the soil, out of sight and although sometimes it takes forty years, there is hope for fruit after all! Amen!

Spreading the Light in Navajoland,

Joel N. Haynes

Missionary to the Navajo Nation

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