



November-December 2020

Dear Pastor, Church and Praying Friends,

THANKFUL FOR 2020!

As we get ready to greet the new year the prevailing sentiment seems to be that of good riddance to 2020. I can certainly understand the sentiment, but I cannot say that I fully agree with it. Paul said in I Thessalonians 5:18 we ought give thanks "In every thing." Not after it is over, but rather in the midst of it. It seems an easier thing to thank God once the trial is past, when you have the ability to scan back over it with an evaluating eye discerning God's purpose for it all. How much more glorious is the gratitude of God's people "In" the trial when answers are unavailable and no end is in sight! I'll not wait to thank God and praise Him 'til the new year comes, because He has been good all the way and shall be moving forward. Praise God for 2020! It's pressured growth of God's people and it's many victories are a blessing for which I am thankful!

THANKFUL FOR NEW CONVERTS!

Over the Holidays it seemed as if the Lord opened the windows of Heaven! We held two Christmas services that saw 82 in physical attendance and then 52 for the second service. Our church folks worked diligently preparing food, cleaning facilities and in bringing over 20 first time visitors between the two services! During the first service three children accepted Christ as Savior in the Junior Church! The Lord added to our blessing by leading us to attempt a new method of evangelism that would involve our congregation and dispersing Christmas boxes. For weeks leading up to Christmas, our church family signed up lost families in scheduled time slots to come to the church and pick up gifts for their children. My family and I spent the entire day greeting one family after another with the commitment that before each family left they would be asked the question, "If you were to die today, are you 100% sure you would go to Heaven?" Our church family was excited to sign up their relatives knowing that they were setting them up for a clear Gospel witness from my wife and I. This partnership was so fruitful as we were able to connect with each family in a way that is often difficult at a large service. By day's end, we had given the Gospel to ten families and saw three adults accept Christ as Savior!

THANKFUL FOR BELIEVER'S BAPTISM!

This past Sunday I had the privilege of baptizing four candidates into the Strong Hold Baptist Church. Of those four candidates many of you will remember Roger and his son, Rigo, whom we had prayed for and seen accept Christ as Savior back in October. Since their conversion, they have attended sixteen services in a row, begun tithing and are in the "How to be a Soulwinner" discipleship class on Wednesdays. Thank you for praying as they are growing in the Lord! Baptized along with them was an adult woman named Rosita and a teen boy named DeShawn. What a great way to finish out 2020!

THANKFUL FOR THE LORD'S WORK!

In usual fashion, I'll use this final paragraph to scatter shoot prayer requests, information and words of thanks. Matters of prayer for the coming months would include our Teen Boy's Hiking Activity, our Kid's Fun Night Activity and the Soulwinning Campaign at Strong Hold Baptist Church as our folks pass out tracts, door hangers and strive to bring first time visitors to service. Pray also for the Discipleship Training Seminar we are hosting through the Bible College in Ganado for area churches as well as the upcoming Spring Semester. Most of my off-Rez preaching engagements have cancelled over the next two months, but please pray for the full slate that awaits the rest of the year with nearly 20 meetings on the books. The family is well and remain my haven of joy and delight. Thank you, thank you, thank you to each one who sacrificed to send special Christmas gifts to our family. We're humbled by your care that in our estimation is far beyond what we deserve. We love you all and pray God's richest blessings upon your lives and ministries in 2021! Happy New Year!

Spreading the Light in Navajoland,

Joel N. Haynes

Missionary to the Navajo Nation

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