

On the Wings of Prayer

“Because thou hast been my help, therefore in
the shadow of thy wings will I rejoice:”
Psalm 63:7

July/August 2021

Believing God’s Promises and Adding to Our Faith

In my morning devotions of John 1-2, I saw an important aspect in the faith of the disciples of Christ. They believed that Jesus was the Christ, left all and followed him. And then, as they followed Jesus, they learned to believe his promises also. The miracle at Cana caused his disciples to believe on him in a greater way than before; **“and his disciples believed on him.”** After the resurrection, they remembered what Jesus said about raising up the temple of his body after three days, and **“they believed the scriptures and the word which Jesus had said.”**

Things that happen in our lives can move us to add to the faith that we already have. The second epistle of Peter expounds on this in chapter 1. Exceedingly great and precious promises have been given to us. We are urged to give all diligence to add to the faith that we already have. In so doing, we will abound and be fruitful for our Lord Jesus Christ. We are also warned that those who fail to do so are blind and not aware of what is to come. And then, we have a great promise of an abundant reception that we can receive into the everlasting Kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

World evangelization and church planting is something that is pursued by those that have added to their faith and believed God’s promises. It is God’s desire that the entire population of the world be exposed to the Gospel witness. God is calling men and women to be missionaries and church planters **“to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people.”** God is moving churches not only to be His witnesses where they are, but also; to be the senders of the missionaries that he has called.

Saving faith in Jesus Christ is where we begin to follow Jesus. That faith is not enough if we are to do all that God has planned for us. In order for us to get to the place where God wants us, we must grow in faith. We must give all diligence to add to our faith. When God moves in our lives, we must respond with more belief in his Word and his promises. **“For so an entrance shall be ministered unto you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.”** 2 Peter 1:11

John Peeples, IBFI Mission Director
Psalm 16:11

***J.D. and Vanessa Young (Honduras)** are progressing well in their language studies. The Young’s are helping two veteran missionary families in their mission works while they study Spanish.

***Ron and Kathy Valerio (Dominican Republic)** request prayer for church members who are recovering from the Covid. The Valerio’s give thanks for Rafa Fernandez who continues to serve faithfully in the congregation. He is a blessing in the church.

***Heath and Caryssa Van Zandt (Church Planter-Rheme)** Please be in prayer for newborn Silas Van Zandt born June 19, 2021. He is in the hospital with health problems that has required two surgeries. The Van Zandt's have located a building in Rheme to begin their church plant. The Van Zandt's request prayer for getting papers signed to lease the building and healing for Silas.

***Mark and Tricia Haynes (Navajo Nation)** report five graduated from the Ganado Baptist Bible College this past May. There was a good turnout for the Man's Camp Out. Three trusted Christ. The Haynes' are excited about the Navajoland Baptist Youth Camp (the first camp ever on the reservation). There were 109 campers with 14 trusting Christ as Savior. Seven young men surrendered to full-time service to preach God's Word. VBS was well attended at Pinon VBS with a high attendance of 125. In Ganado VBS, there was a high attendance of 70. More VBS locations are planned this summer. The Haynes' look forward to seeing what God will do in each one.

***True and Diana Hawkins (Brazil)** report the drug cartel continues to worsen in their area. Please pray for the Hawkins' safety as they minister and lead in the church services. The church building projects continue to go forward which is greatly needed. Bro. True assist in providing building materials and labor, so many churches can have a place to meet. The 4th Indigenous Church Leaders Congress was well attended with over three hundred in attendance. It was a time of teaching to equip the saints and encouragement with many Brazilian pastors in attendance.

***Leslie and Alba Priday (Honduras)** rejoice in improvements in Alba's health. Bro. Leslie has had opportunities to preach in churches and teach some classes at the Norris Bible Baptist Seminary. The Priday's will make a trip to Honduras this month to renew documents and have services at the church. Please continue to pray for Alba's health needs.

***Scott and Darla Griffin (Homeless No More)** report four came to Christ while out soul-winning and four at the church these past two months. There were five baptized. The Griffin's ministry was blessed with four new tires on both vans, the vans air-conditioning repaired, and new brakes.