

the Cooleys

Ben & Carrie
Noah, Elsie, & Emma

Reaching the
Northwest USA

Brethren, pray for us. 1 Thessalonians 5:25

To our Beloved Brethren in Christ,

February 2020

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As we reflect back on the month of February, we join hands and hearts with the Apostle Paul and say, "Having therefore obtained help of God, I [we] continue unto this day..." (Acts 26:22). Benjamin began the month still on crutches and in an "airboot" to protect the ankle in which he tore the two ligaments, but at the writing of this letter he is walking again and without a limp—Praise the Lord! The doctor recommended 4-6 weeks of physical therapy which will extend into **mid-March**. Thankfully, with time, therapy, and trust in the Lord, I can say that strength and stability is returning to my injured foot. It was a blessing to be back in the pulpit teaching and preaching the Word of God beginning **Feb. 9**. As we resumed our meetings, we were privileged to be in several churches across TN, meet new faces, and renew old acquaintances. Our meetings went well with several new prayer partners and a couple new supporters added. **Thank you** to each and everyone who are holding the ropes in our behalf by partnering with us through prayer and provision. You are greatly needed and a vital part of what God has called us to do. Only eternity will reveal the rewards for those who pray and give faithfully to God's work!

It has been my prayer for our family this month to please God, preach Christ, and persuade men in our travels. Along our way, we found some willing to receive the Gospel Tracts we offered them, and we also found those who rejected them. It is disheartening when people reject the only message, yea, the only Savior who can deliver them from Hell, but we must not let this deter us from continuing to spread the soul-saving and life-changing message of Christ. While attending one Sunday service, I reached in my wallet to give to the offering and the Lord told me to give the four or five \$1 dollar bills I had and hold on to the \$20 bill. This I did, not knowing exactly why. It was later on while at a Restaurant that the Lord laid it on my heart to give a tip to our waitress that was obviously having a very bad day. I then realized what the \$20 was for.

We watched as she took a break from her work to read the gospel tract and even gathered some coworkers around her who were looking on as well. Then as I went to pay for our meal, the cashier thanked me for giving that tip, and yet another door was opened to plant the seed of the Gospel as she gladly received a tract. **Please pray** for these young ladies who live and work in Mt. Juliet, TN. **Pray** for a man in the same area who coldly refused the gospel. Was the \$20 dollar tip too much to give (the tip was actually more than our meal by several cents)? It was certainly not too much when we consider Galatians 6:10 and our responsibility to do good **unto all men**. I only mention these details to glorify God and ask you to be sensitive to the Spirit of God as He leads and guides you in giving out the Gospel of Christ. He knows every soul that will cross your path, and what each one needs, and how to reach each one with the Gospel. Be careful to sow the seed as you go, and shine your light with good works as well (Mt. 5:16).

Please pray for James, a blind man with whom we began to share the Gospel and who quickly began to tell me about the time when he came to know the Lord. It was a blessing to meet and talk with James in a busy and crowded place and hear him give a clear and bright testimony of salvation in spite of the physical darkness and blindness he was experiencing. **Pray also for our family** to have a greater sensitivity to follow the Lord's leading, and a greater capacity to show the Lord's love to the sinners all around us each and every day. Our time is running short, the night is far spent, the day is at hand, and the Lord will soon appear to catch His bride away. May we be ever ready when He comes and be found seeking to bring others to know Him in these last days telling of both the goodness and severity of God.

Please pray for several preachers that I carry in my heart that need the encouraging hand of the Lord. It should never be that we are too busy to be involved in the ministry of evangelism, when it comes to sinners; and the ministry of encouragement, when it comes to saints. Seek to be a Barnabas today and encourage someone along the way. **PLEASE PRAY AS WE HAVE PURCHASED TICKETS FOR OUR FAMILY TO FLY IN TO BOISE, IDAHO ON APRIL 10 FOR A SURVEY TRIP IN IDAHO AND OREGON. TO GOD BE THE GLORY!**

Because He first loved us,
The Cooleys (Rev. 22:21)

