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## July/August 2020 Prayer Letter

Dear Friends and Supporters,

As the severity of the COVID-19 restrictions begin to subside things are really starting to pick up. After months of waiting we finally had the privilege of presenting in person, including in our home church. It was great to show our video presentation, set up our display table and distribute prayer cards. All of the investment of time, money, and prayer is beginning to pay off, and God is good.

Despite the progress made on COVID-19 many churches here in California are still dealing with shuttered doors, online services only, and the cancellation of events. Our governor has ordered that churches must meet outdoors, and that singing is no longer allowed in worship services. Needless to say, this has put many pastors in an even more difficult position about whether or not they should continue to follow government mandates.

Some churches are meeting indoors and going ahead with singing in services, and our home church is one of them. While our church has not faced any government interference, others have. PLEASE PRAY for pastors and churches here in California who face threats of fines and even jail time simply for exercising their God-given and constitutionally-protected right to worship. I never thought I would ever have to write a sentence like that.

I had the privilege of sharing a brief gospel presentation with our new neighbor, Ricardo. It was a divine appointment indeed. He actually came to our door to share a Bible lesson as part of his theological training. However, sadly to say, he is involved in a cult that teaches many false doctrines. Some of which include a works-based view of salvation and the necessity of observing the Sabbath. He seems to be a very genuine young man who is eager and willing to listen. He was open and excited to have more discussion with me about what the Bible teaches. PLEASE PRAY for Ricardo to realize that what his religion teaches is contrary to the Word of God, and that he must repent and put his faith solely in Christ for his salvation.

We are getting closer and closer to the arrival of our fourth child. In July we were excited to learn we are expecting a baby boy!! He is due on October 9, but we have a hunch he will arrive sooner than that. PLEASE PRAY for Holly as the pregnancy progresses, that God would give her the strength and energy that she needs to meet her responsibilities, and that everything will continue to go smoothly.

PLEASE PRAY for us to have traveling mercies as we go from church to church sharing our burden for the city of Riverside and that our support would come in quickly.

Our current support level is currently 5%.

The Ward Family Church planters to Riverside, CA