The Ward Family

Daniel, Holly, Hannah, Charity, Gloria, Jonathan Church Planters to Riverside, CA

January/February 2022 Prayer Letter

Dear Friends and Supporters,

The Bible says in James 1:2-3, "My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations; Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience." I want to begin by recounting some small trials we have experienced since our last prayer letter.

The week before Christmas our cargo trailer, which we have used while traveling on deputation, was stolen from the property where we were staying. I let this discourage me more than it should have. Praise the Lord we were able to replace the trailer the next week, and we slowly replaced the items from inside the stolen trailer, including our prayer cards and display materials. On January 9 I received a call from the Los Angeles Police Department that the trailer had been recovered. Unfortunately, none of the items from inside the trailer were recovered. It was in rough shape but still usable.

Our housing search has been more difficult than we anticipated. The market in Southern California is very competitive right now. Our prayer is that by March or April we will have found a home in the Riverside area that will meet all of our personal and ministry needs.

In February I came down with a horrible illness. I was fatigued more than I've ever been, had a fever, a terrible cough, lost my appetite, and I lost my sense of taste for about a week. I never got tested for COVID, but based on the symptoms I had I most likely had it. The rest of the family also got sick, but thankfully, none of them had it as bad as I did. I am thankful that we have all recovered and are doing much better.

We also had to have the transmission in our minivan rebuilt. After all the miles we've put on it hauling a trailer, it needed some attention. Praise the Lord we had the money for it, but it took much longer than we would have liked.

Through all of these I have had to learn the patience described in James 1:3. God always finds ways of testing our faith. Sometimes we think we know where we are spiritually and then God allows something, or even a series of events to show us where we really are. I found out where I really was.

God is blessing our ministry. We have added six more supporting churches for a total of \$750 more per month. At the Heartland Baptist Bible College annual Church Planting Conference we raised over \$14,000 in one time gifts to help us get the church started.

PRAYER REQUESTS:

- Our housing search in the Riverside area
- Souls saved while we travel from place to place
- The rest of our support to be raised quickly
- Our current support level is 63%

CONTACT INFORMATION

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