



RE-CHRIST

AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM

Pray for students as they need love and continue to seek the LORD. Pray that they will seek to make wise decisions.

Pray for families during the Christmas season to understand the real meaning of Christmas and to enjoy time together.

PRAY!!!

If you would like to mail a check to support our ministry, please send it to:

RE-CHRIST MINISTRIES

P O BOX 922518

NORCROSS GA 30010-2518

If you would like to give online, please go to our website:

www.re-christ.org

Nov/Dec 2014

Dear RE-CHRIST Supporters

Merry Christmas! Thank you so much for your continued support this year and over the past eight years of ministry. There is much to celebrate and much to give thanks to God. Last Sunday night we topped our year off by baptizing seven people. We baptized Jovita (9th grade), Karen (10th), Jesus (Dad), Jesus (9th), Akegee (8th), Rebecca (10th), and Ashley Johns. Yep, my wife wanted to rededicate her life to the Lord. She was baptized when she was five years old, but rededicated her life to God in 2003 after a time of wandering. Since our marriage in 2006 much has happened in her life and the idea of baptism has been weighing heavily on her heart. When she saw that six other people we minister were going to be baptized she knew she wanted to join the celebration, being part of their lives, and also being part of a celebration that was different from the normal baptisms at our church.

Ashley's decision is a reminder that we all must continually come to God through repentance and reconciliation. This does not mean we need to be re-baptized, but it means that we must strive to keep a pure heart by maintaining the right fellowship with God. It was an honor for me as her husband and brother in Christ to baptize her. It was also an honor to baptize all of my other brothers and sisters in the Lord. Several of the other disciples we have been ministering since the beginning of our ministry and we have watched them grow up before our very eyes. Others we have known for less time (3-4 years), but we see God at work in a mighty way. This is an exciting stage in our ministry and we thank you for supporting us with your prayers, your service, and your finances. This Christmas will always be memorable as our joy continues to be complete as we proclaim Jesus to the world!

Jesus was proclaimed to the world in other ways through our ministry during the last couple of months. God blessed us with two wonderful opportunities to come alongside two families and provide Christmas miracles. One family was broken up before Thanksgiving by domestic violence. Now a single Mom of three children is left to work two jobs, home school three kids, pay back payment on bills from the neglect of her husband, pay all the current bills herself with a reduced income, and try to provide Christmas for the three kids. Not to mention she is dealing with her own personal self-esteem and emotional suffering which she has no real support system. However, she does have the Lord and we are witnessing this lady come into greater understanding of God's love and provisions. The kids, ages 16, 8, and 7, have never

PRAYER REQUESTS

- 1) PRAISE THE LORD FOR COMING TO THE EARTH AS OUR SAVIOR!**
- 2) PRAY FOR CONTINUED WISDOM FOR DECISIONS MADE IN 2015.**
- 3) PRAISE THE LORD FOR CONTINUED FINANCIAL BLESSING FOR THE MINISTRY. HE ALWAYS PROVIDES!**
- 4) PRAY FOR HEARTS TO BE OPEN FOR THE KNOCKING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT!**

had a Christmas tree. Well, this year that got a tree and tons of gifts to go under the tree. The Mom also received financial help with bills (brought her to tears) and some continued pastoral care and emotional support she needs to endure. Tomorrow, Christmas day, this family will be resting in the peace God brought into this world as the Christ child, and now as Savior for all who believe.

The other family God used us to provide a Christmas miracle was a family of six. They were evicted from their apartment two weeks ago for missing two months of rent after the husband's construction job dried up, along with their savings. We have known this family through the ministry of our after school program for five years. We have worked with three of the four children, the oldest is autistic and goes to a special school. Anyway, as the Mom was telling me of her situation I felt the Lord say seek to pay her debt. Right, is this not what Christ did for us, pay our sin debt? How great is this opportunity to pay the financial debt of a person in need right before Christmas so that they could experience a Christmas miracle. I prayed with the Mom after first hearing the family's troubles, that God would clear their debt and that the family would be back in an apartment for Christmas. Stories like these are never simple and they typically require many blessing. If God was not in my prayer, we were not going to find the answers we were seeking.

Sure enough the plan to get the family back into an apartment was much larger than I thought. First, they needed 4K so that their debt did not go into collections. Second they would need a new place to approve them and have a vacancy. Third, we would want to pair them up with a family who would come alongside them for the next year to help them and grow with them in the Lord. Here is what the Lord did. He did not raise \$4K, rather he used me to negotiate the amount to \$2,500 and provided that amount. Also, rather than having the family move from the community they once lived and into a new place, the family simply moved back into their old apartment. Then, God created an opening in another ministry called Hope Ministry who would come alongside this family over the next year, and maybe more, to disciple them and help them with their finances. The Hope Ministry works with moving families from poverty to more stable ground. The chances of all of this happening in two weeks is not likely, but with God all things are possible. Oh yeah, then God provide an additional \$750 for January's rent and blessed the family with Christmas gifts and food. The family is now resting peacefully in their apartment with the joy of knowing God loves them and cares for all of their needs. Thank you Jesus and thank you to all of the obedient saints who work to make these Christmas miracles happen.

In closing God has blessed us to share the Gospel with many people as we been moving through life over the past couple of months. For the past six weeks I taught a group of high school

“Because of the LORD's great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. I say to myself, "The LORD is my portion; therefore I will wait for him.”
Lamentations 3:22-24

Contact Info

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students during their first period religion class about living a life destined in Christ. One day at Chick Fil A, God blessed me with a wonderful opportunity to minister to three elderly ladies as they commented on my Bible reading. My Uncle has been blessed and is responding positively towards the letters I write him each month speaking of God's love for Him. He called me recently to share his appreciation for the letters and quoted some of my words back to me that stirred his heart. A student of ours, his brother, was released from jail this week and we were blessed to provide transportation (6 hr. trip) and emotional support for this single Mom. The challenge with this testimony was that I had to miss Noah's Christmas play to provide this blessing to this family. Part of my ordination vows as a minister was to make my family my first ministry priority, but that I would also teach them how to place others above themselves. God taught us both of these lessons as Ashley and I prayed to the Lord about what we needed to do concerning this ministry opportunity.

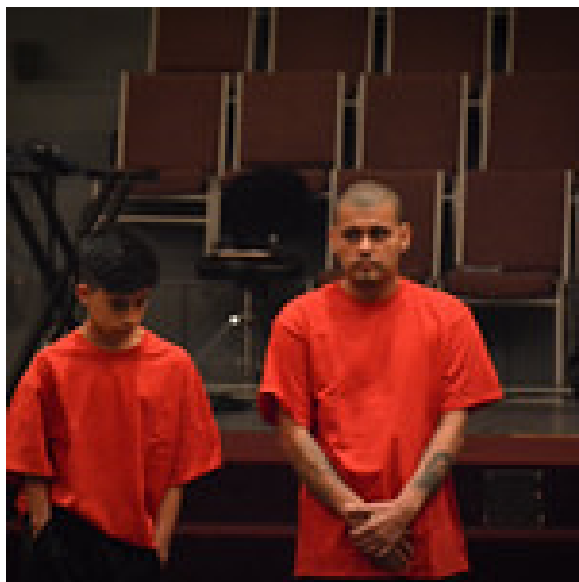


A student who was baptized last Sunday, Jovita, was in a bad car accident last week and she was sore and could hardly move right arm. I declared healing over her and miraculously she was moving her arm around freely without pain. It was funny because after I declared healing in Jesus name I asked her what she felt like and she began to tell me about the pain she once experienced. I then said, Jovita do something you could not do before. This is when she began to move her arm freely as she said the pain is gone. Amazement feel over her face. I knew this was just another way God was affirming her walk in the Lord. Amen!

God connected us with Rodney, a man hurting and needing a listening ear. After talking with him for an hour and then praying with him Rodney rose up and gave me a warm embrace, a hug that lasted for 20-30 seconds. I will admit this is not common for two men, especially two men that have only met once before. God is love and his love cast out all fear. Christi is a Mom of three, whose husband worships the Grim Reaper. God used us to bless Christi as she is seeks to better understand God. We provided her with some resources and her oldest son will look to join our after school program in the spring.



Most importantly, Ashley and I have been enjoying a wonderful advent season with Noah. Each night we read a Bible story. Ashley made Christmas ornaments to match the Bible story and then Noah places them on the tree. It is amazing to see what Noah retains from week to week. The attention span of a three year old is much like many adults, ha ha, short. However, from out of the blue Noah will recite different Bible stories back to us. This has been my greatest joy, to disciple and share in the love of Jesus with my family. Tonight we will play host for other family as they will come to our house for a Christmas Eve dinner after church. The cool thing is that the ESL, English as a Second Language, that Ashley works with each week blessed us with a gift



card to the grocery and we were able to go and purchase food for our family celebration. Jesus is the miracle, delight in Him, and give Him thanks for all He is!

If you feel led, please make a year-end contribution to our ministry. You can do this by mailing a check to PO Box 922518 or click on this link and do it online via the North American Mission Board. All contributions are tax deductible. We love you all.

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Brother in Christ
Matt Johns

