



The Baptist Bulletin

November 2021

A Different Perspective of Suffering

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Prayer Requests:

Nation & Leaders

Church Family

Health:

Larry Schweitzer
Paul Olson
Gene Schriver
Phil Kuhlman
Melody Coleman
Larry Sitorius
Those with Covid

Ministries:

Small Groups
Sparks
Moms2Moms
Moms in Prayer
Bible Studies

When we suffer, what do we think of when we put our thoughts on God? Whether we are suffering relationally, emotionally, physically or spiritually. Do we ever question God's acceptance and love of us?

To find the truth of the answer to these questions, we need to go to the book of Acts. Within the fifth chapter, verses 17-42, Luke shares a very unique story with Theophilus. The apostles were doing exactly what the Lord called them to. They were sharing the redemptive work of Jesus with the world. The result of their faithful service, was jealousy from the high priest and Sadducees. They arrested the apostles and had them placed in prison.

In the middle of the night, an angel came into the prison, opened the doors and freed the apostles. Then the angel told them what to do in verse 20: **Go and stand in the temple and speak to the people all the words of Life.**

What a bold command. The apostles were just sent to prison and then freed. They probably wanted to take a little rest and regroup. But no, they are told to go and preach the gospel. The apostles response: They went to the temple at daybreak and began to teach.

The high priest and the Sanhedrin gathered together to figure out how to get rid of the apostles. Not long ago, they had Jesus executed. These were the same men serving on the 70 member spiritual leadership group of Israel known as the Sanhedrin. That same choice was likely not off the table for the apostles. But when they went to get the apostles, they found a locked, guarded, empty cell. They had no clue what happened to their prisoners, until someone told them that the apostles were teaching in the temple. So they went and retrieved, gently this time, their prisoners.

They commanded the apostles not share the name of Jesus because it made them look bad. Peter and the apostles responded by stating: **We must obey God rather than man.** This really angered the high priest and Sadducees. They were ready to kill the apostles. But Gamaliel, the mentor of the Apostle Paul, told them to really look at what was going on. If it was of man, it would fail. But if what was going on was of God, then they would be opposing the Lord.

They decided to just beat the apostles and threaten them not to share the name of Jesus any more. Then they released them.

The response from the apostles after being persecuted, abused and treated unjustly is amazing. They didn't whine or complain. Instead they rejoiced for they were counted worthy to suffer dishonor for the name (verse 41). Then they went and shared the gospel every day in the temple and houses.

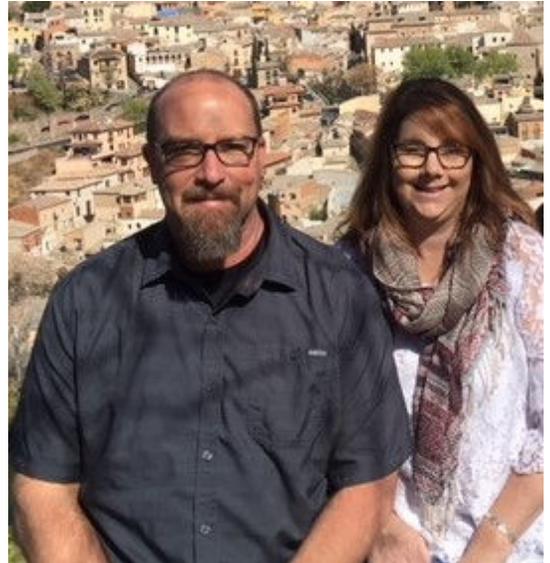
Persecution and suffering is not rejection from the Lord, but the mark of worth which is found only in the truth that Jesus lived for us, to die for us, to redeem us.

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Missionaries of the Month—Brian & Chris Sanders (Converge)

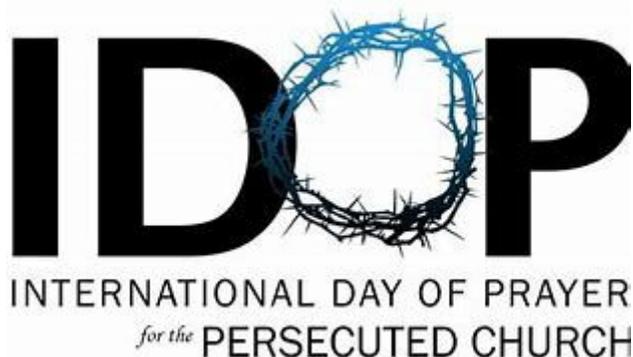
Your generous support and prayers are helping us to navigate many challenges, Covid has changed the face of overseas service in Spain and is still affecting face to face interactions. Many of our ministry partners in Spain are still serving through video platforms from their homes. Even though Chris and I are state-side we are engaging our “M” contacts the same way to further relationships.

In August we were able to return to Spain for close to a month as the travel restrictions were temporarily lifted. How wonderful it was to see our “M” friends and ministry partners. During our visit we learned that our friend “A” has decided to follow Jesus, his wife said that he now has a white heart. The Lord has given him a gift of wisdom, many “M’s” in his community are coming to him for counseling and advice.



Our Spanish Landlord and his extended family missed us so much during our home assignment that they decided to go to the local Baptist church because they remembered that we were Baptist. They wanted to be around people who are loving like us. At this point, their entire family all the way to their grandchildren is attending the church and have decided to give their hearts to Jesus.

Your faithful prayers and giving is and has made a big difference in the lives of those we serve in Spain. We are grateful to you and your service to the Kingdom. We also need your prayers as we work through our need to be in the states to care for elderly parents and our continued involvement in Spain. We believe that the Lord has given us ministry partners in Spain that can continue the day-to-day groundwork as Chris and I travel in and out of Spain to continue developing leaders and the community center. This is part of our eventual exit strategy but still needs your faithful support and prayer. Pray for the leaders God is raising up and for us as we walk beside them.



On Sunday, **November 7th** we will join our prayers with those internationally for our persecuted brothers and sisters around the world.



Birthdays ~ ~ ~

Nov 2	Bill Porter
Nov 7	Georgie Flesch
Nov 12	Mark Ballmer
Nov 24	Rebecca Crown
Nov 26	Aaron Coleman
Nov 30	Nathanael Urman

Anniversaries ~ ~ ~

Nov 16	Kim & Kenneth Crisman
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Financial Report ~ ~ ~

Budget for the Year: \$140,112.96
Fiscal Year ends 2/28/22

Offerings Received for 8 months:
\$94,532.44

Expenditures Paid for 8 months:
\$111,219.17

Nursery Volunteers ~ ~ ~

Nov 7	Cor Peterson
Nov 14	Alisa Crown
Nov 21	Jody Nelson
Nov 28	Connie Schweitzer

Greeters ~ ~ ~

Nov 7	Virginia Hudson / Jim Flesch
Nov 14	Marsha Weeks / Joyce Sabin
Nov 21	Kim Crisman / Kelli Beck
Nov 28	Volunteers needed

(See Kelli Beck or Marsha Weeks to volunteer)

A Ladies Movie Night was enjoyed in October





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MONTHLY SCHEDULE

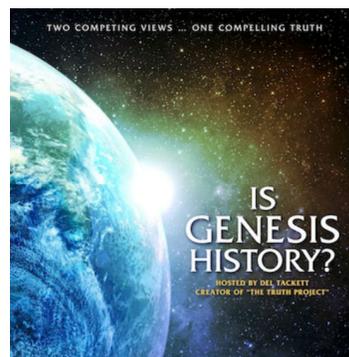
- Nov 4 Women's Council—1:30 pm
- Nov 7 DST ends
- Nov 7 Is Genesis History? Movie -7 pm
- Nov 8 Management Finance—6:30 pm
- Nov 8 Elder Board—7 pm
- Nov 11 Town Small Group—6:30 pm
- Nov 13 Country Small Group—7 pm
- Nov 21 Thanksgiving Potluck
- Nov 21 Decorate Church for Christmas
- Nov 21 Worship Watchcare—1 pm
- Nov 28 Fellowship Outreach—12 pm

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

- Sun. Worship Service—9:45 am
Sunday School—11:00 am
- Mon. Moms in Prayer—8:30 am
Ladies Bible Study—6:30 pm
(Acts Precept Study)
- Tues. Moms2Moms
1st Tues @ 9:30-11:30 am
3rd Tues @ 6-8 pm
- Wed. Ladies Bible Study—1:30 pm
(Set Apart—The Beatitudes)
Awana Sparks—6:30-8 pm

Come give thanks together as we approach Thanksgiving Day. We will gather together at **noon on November 21** to enjoy a potluck dinner that includes all the traditional favorites of the day and more!

Bring a favorite dish and join us!



Is Genesis History?

November 7th at 7 p.m.

Free viewing —come see the compelling truth at the Gothenburg Sun Theatre sponsored by several local churches.