

Missions in Media Update – Spring 2022

Greetings in the Name of Lord and Savior Jesus Christ

Thank You for your continued prayers and support of our labor – we seek the fruit that abounds to your account (Phil. 4:17)—Russell D & Family

NEIE—Now in its ninth year of operation:

- The **Northeast institute of Evangelism** is now in its **ninth year** of operation. Currently we have **seven students**. Five are formal students, two are auditing. We are now in the third quarter, first year – **Old & New Testament Survey**.
- **NEIE Reaching & Teaching:** Sister **Marlene Bundridge** is always reaching out, looking for the next soul to teach. She has been in the Lord’s church for many years and is not shy about sharing the gospel. Her and sister **Sandra Marti** host a Monday evening Bible study in Clayton, N.J. They had been teaching **Georgette Brown** the plan of salvation for several months and she finally decided to obey! **Please keep Georgette, Marlene and Sandra in your prayers, there is much follow up to do.**

**Georgette Brown Baptized
1/15/2022**



Sam; Marlene; Kim; Georgette; Sandra

- **New Student: Pray for Javier Perez** (formal). Javier was introduced to the school through brother **Derrick Miller**. He lives in Egg Harbor Township, New Jersey and is a member at the Northfield Church of Christ just northwest of Ocean City. After several conversations with Derek he decided he would visit the school. He started attending classes at the beginning of this year. He is hungry for the truth and loves evangelism. Javier speaks Spanish fluently; prayerfully he will be traveling on campaigns in the future. We are grateful that brother Derrick pointed him our way. Praise God!

- **New Student: Pray for Rebecca Guy** (formal). Rebecca is the vice principal for Camden High School in Camden, N.J. and a member of the Pitman Church of Christ in Pitman N.J. Her husband Justin and I have been friends for many years. She had been sharing with him a desire to learn more about the Bible. Their daughter Amanda and her husband Emmanuel are Seventh Day Adventists and she wants to be able to share the truth in an effective way with both of them. **Please pray for Rebecca.**
- **Home Mission Workshop: Angela Perna; Eileen Beoethy; William Anderson; Mark Eckler; Richard Joploh** and I traveled to Waxahachie, TX in March for the **Home Mission Workshop**. We attended **New Life Behavior** classes to receive certification. Log onto **homemission.org** to listen to all the keynote speakers and please consider sharing the lessons to help build up the kingdom. Also (if you haven't already) **please consider helping Home Mission with prayers and or a contribution**. They are doing an incredible work across the U.S. **Smaller congregations are being revived and many are growing again because of their tireless efforts.**

On the way back from Texas, while on a lay-over in Chicago, **sister Angela was fired up from the workshop. After more than several minutes of getting to know the lady (Maria) sitting next to her at the gate; she started sharing the Word with her!** I did not interrupt their study, I just listened from a distance as Angela answered some questions Maria had about the church. It was one of those special moments—I **remembered why I started the school and in particular how grateful I am to God and all the brethren that have supported this labor!** She didn't know I took the picture (below) when she was saying goodbye to Maria. This was not the only conversation with an open Bible Angela had. On our way down to Texas her and **Eileen** were both sharing the Word with an older gentleman who sat across the aisle from them. Although I could not hear all that they were teaching (sitting several seats behind) I did observe that it was a lengthy discussion. It was so encouraging to see them with the Scriptures open and working to share the truth with another soul!



Angela; Eileen; William and Mark



Angela hugging Maria

- **Mark Eckler** is focusing on future work for the kingdom. The man has a lot of talent—musical talent. Mark is a good musician. He can play the keyboards, guitar and he's a good singer too! When Mark obeyed the truth, he struggled with where he would fit in, as far as serving in the Lord's church. He played the keys with various worship bands in former denominational settings. When he first started attending at Media he immediately got involved with leading songs and while attending NEIE he participated in a Back to the Bible Campaign in Oklahoma. He worked and worshipped with us in Media for a couple of years and then for a time had fallen away. We are extremely grateful that he has returned and is now more focused than before. **Praise God!**

While helping to teach some newer devotional songs at Media he shared with me something that was very special. He said, "you know what brother, I now realize what my gift of service is (when he saw little Bill, one of our youth, come forward to lead songs with him) He said, "I need to be helping others to learn how to lead songs!" I said, "Yes sir, the Lord has work for you to do! Now let's take your God-given talent and put it to work!" **Mark will be traveling to the Texas Normal Singing School in Abilene July 16th through the 22nd for their yearly training.** He decided that he's going to go to the four classes (one course per year in July) and graduate from their program. **He shared with me that he wants to be able to do singing workshops and help with Back to the Bible Campaigns!** Lord knows we can use more men who are able to help train others in leading songs, especially up here! **Please pray for brother Mark that the Lord will give him many opportunities to serve in this capacity.**

- **NEIE Homiletics Class:** I decided to start a class that would help the men in developing lessons for preaching. Students who have worked through the two-year program and want to preach are welcome to come. We have the class every first Saturday of each month. We only meet once a month so the students can utilize the principles and work on building a lesson(s) till the next class; then share them when we meet again. Currently we have two that are coming consistently, my brother-in-law **Milt Warrell** and brother **Derrick Miller**. Brothers **Amos Bellah** and **Richard Joploh** have come intermittently. **Please pray for this effort.**
- **Milt Warrell:** Along with coming to the Homiletics class, Milt is taking **Amridge University** courses online to earn a **Bachelors in Bible**. I am excited for him because I know it's something he had always wanted to do. Initially, when he first obeyed the gospel my brother Joe encouraged him to attend Bear Valley. That did not work out, the fund raising to attend was a bit daunting. He did take some classes through the Sunset School of Preaching back when they used cassette tapes. Oh my, LOL! Well praise God, Milt is now retired! He had worked the last thirty-five years as a project manager for a commercial contractor while preaching once a month at the Lower Bucks Church of Christ in Levittown, PA. As a project manager he was involved in building Wal-Marts; Targets; Home Depots and scores of office buildings. Milt has a ton of practical experience in teaching one on one and preaching, so now I'm praying that he will be helping to teach some classes at NEIE! **GO MILT!!! Please keep my brother-in-law in your prayers.**

- **Roger Jack:** Roger is a very interesting fellow. He is a teacher in the Maple Shade School District in New Jersey. You may remember that I had taught and baptized his son Micah last year. We have met for breakfast several times since he started coming to the school and he has shared with me his desire to do more for the Lord. He wants direction, but as of yet, he has not obeyed the gospel. He is questioning a lot of what he is learning, considering the truth being presented and I obviously encourage that. His struggle, I believe, from the beginning has been his *faith only* position. We have covered the topic very thoroughly and will come back around to it in other classes. I'm praying that he will submit to the truth as he sees the puzzle of Scripture come together. He has visited Media for worship several times with his wife and their two younger boys. Please keep Roger and his family in your prayers

Concerning Media:

- **Personal studies:** Media's numbers have been steady around 15 to 20 since Covid. **Angela** and **Eileen** have been reaching out to friends and family. Their sister Rosemary Gidek had passed earlier this year and they along with brother **Nicholas Beoethy** (Eileen's son) have been reaching out to their nephew and Nick's cousin **Johnathan**. I have had a few studies with Johnathan at Nick's home. In fact, **Stephen Beoethy** (Eileen's other son), Nick's brother joined us during the last study. Yes...it's a family affair. **Please pray for both Johnathan and Stephen, that the Lord will open their hearts to the truth.**
- **Monday Night for the Master:** We are implementing the Monday Night for the Master program once a month throughout this year to visit with fallen sheep and prospects who have visited and or souls we've been having conversations with. We take along a meal and or a small package of goodies; sometimes a small fruit basket. If they are home we'll visit for a bit, pray and invite to study. We have had some success with folks visiting us for worship utilizing this program. **Please pray for more open doors.**
- **Back to Building Stuff:** After going crazy doing a lot of remodeling I got to a point where I had to slow down. I have a new friend that has hampered me every couple of months, his name—gout! Gout has crept up on me and Cher had to straighten me out several months ago. **She told me the way it is, and I needed to hear it!** She said, "You have got to change your eating habits or you will not be able to do anything!" And that is putting it lightly. That day I woke up to the fact that I can no longer enjoy some foods that I really love. This journey was/is challenging because it took me several months to figure out what I can and cannot eat anymore. Let's just say that my diet has changed to a limited amount of foods. When it comes to drinking, well I had to give up my favorite—ICED TEA!!! UGH!! Do you believe it? I LOVE TEA! Well, the Lord is gracious, I now enjoy green tea. Not the same as black, but it'll do.

Anyway, I am now able to do various jobs without being hampered with what feels like a knife being jabbed in my ankle; all because my wife set me straight.

Amen walls! I love my wife, Thank You Jesus!

- **Media Contribution:** The weekly contribution at Media is \$700. **We have been blessed exceeding that number almost every week**, now being able to save a little to help with building maintenance and missions. We are considering a new boiler system, since ours is on the brink of collapse. It still gives us great heat during the winter but we fear it may fail in the coming year. Please keep this in your prayers.
- **Our son Nick:** If I would ever stop doing this labor of love it would be because I've been torn with doing more for our son Nicholas. He is in need of work to support himself and to learn how to get along in this world. He had a job for a short time and then left due to an unfortunate incident with a customer. He has been applying for jobs in the area; trying to do it on his own. He has set up a couple of interviews and that has been encouraging for us as we see him going through the process.

Asperger's has always been a challenge for me, more so than Cher. I think about things I could have done better when he was younger but realize I cannot go back. We struggle knowing that maybe being around a larger, stronger church family would've helped him. Cher has set him up with a state program called ARC. They assist with job placement and an aid to work with him if necessary. Nick wants the placement part but not the aid part. He wants to be independent yet needs the prompts to get certain things done. Cheryl and I are anxious to see him settle into something that will build up his self-esteem. **Please pray for Nick, Cheryl & I.**

- **Jordan & Lindsay** have been preparing for their wedding which is set for Saturday, October 22. Jordan has been taking classes on-line for Cyber Security through Wilmington University while working evenings at Esschem. Lindsay had received another certificate advancing to a higher level as a Behavior Analyst. She is now in a more administrative position with her work. **Please keep them both in your prayers.**
- **My Wife:** Please keep **Cheryl** in your prayers. She has been struggling with lower back pain for several years now. She is eating well and exercising and that has helped with mobility. She is not fond of seeing an M.D. just to get meds. She likes the natural alternatives to help out with her physical health. They do work! She is considering a chiropractor as of late. **Please keep her in your prayers. God bless her. She is keeping the family on track!**
- ***WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR ALL OF YOUR CONTINUED PRAYERS AND FINANCIAL SUPPORT!***

In Christian Love, Russell & Cheryl and the Boys

“Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.” (1 Cor. 15:58)