

November - December 2011

Dear Faithful Supporters,

The new year is here, and we are excited to see what the Lord has prepared for us. The end of 2011 was exciting and busy, as is usually the case around the holidays. We thank the Lord for His many blessings on us during this time. With the start of the new year, we will begin to adjust into new areas of the ministry here in Merced.

During November and December, we had a very full schedule. We were excited to be able to share in a Thanksgiving meal with our new extended church family. It is always a wonderful time of the year to look back and see the blessings of God in our life, especially in the midst of difficult times. We have seen the Lord work in wonderful ways throughout this year, and thank him for his blessings, protection, and provision. We are excited to be in the place of service that God has called us to.

Through the holiday season the pastor here at Merced Baptist Church has asked us to transition into some new areas of ministry. We have had a wonderful time working with the adult Sunday school class. If you remember in my previous letter, I mentioned Bro. Root. He has been the music leader at the church for the last year and has also been the youth pastor. The Lord has led him to take the pastorate position at a struggling church in Oregon. He will be leaving the church here in Merced sometime in January and will be moving his family to Oregon. We are excited about the call that God has placed upon him, and I will be taking his place as music minister and youth pastor. I am excited and humbled by this responsibility. If we are to see a change toward Godliness in America it must be in the youth of America. The teenagers at the church here are like most teenagers standing on the edge of making life changing decisions both good and bad. Please pray with me that God will help us guide these teenagers along the cliffs of young adulthood. We know and understand that this will only be possible by pointing them towards God, directing them with the truths and promises of God's Word, and allowing the Holy Spirit to work in their heart and life. I have also begun to lead the congregational music and plan out the music for our choir to sing on Sunday mornings. Thanks to the direction of the pastor here, I have discovered much about finding good music to use with our choir.

Throughout our time here in Merced, California we have been able to share the gospel with many people and invite even more to visit the church. The Bible tells us that some plant the seed of the gospel, some water that seed, but God gives the increase. One Sunday morning the Primary class was so full of children that we had to move them into the main auditorium and move the adult classes around to other class rooms. That day we were blessed to hear that at least five of those children accepted Christ as their Savior. It just serves as a reminder that when we are faithful to serve God, He will provide the fruit of our labor. Thank you for all of your prayers and support. We are excited to see how the Lord is molding us this year for His service, and are praying that He will work in wonderful ways both at your ministry and here in California.

Reaching California,

David Rasnake

Mailing Address: 42 Manzanita Ave. Merced, CA 95341 (404) 451-2602 www.reachingca.weebly.com davidrasnake@mwbm.org

Sending Charele Liberty Baptist Charel 1410 Valley Hill Rd Stockbruge, GA 30281 Macedonia World Baptist Missions Inc. PO Box 519 Braselton, GA 30517 (706) 654-2818

