

# **Prayer Changes Things!!!**

Prayer changes our outlook, our direction, our results, and a whole lot more!

This morning my heart is encouraged when I think of the goodness of the Lord!

Here are a couple of verses that have been encouraging to me lately...

**Psalm 145:19** says, "He will fulfill the DESIRES of those who fear Him; He ALSO (if this is not enough) HEAR their cry and save them."

**Psalm 37:4, 5** tells us to, "Delight yourself also in the LORD (this is Jehovah the all-sufficient one), And (when you do this) He shall give you the DESIRES of your heart. **v. 5** Commit (give what your holding or caring) your way to the LORD, Trust Also in Him, And He shall/will bring it to pass."

What a great promise found in the pages of Scripture. Jesus reminds His disciples in *John 16:23-24, "Whatever you ask the Father in My name He will give you. v. 24* Until now you have asked nothing in My name. Ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be full."

#### WE DESIRE YOUR **PRAYERS** BECAUSE **WE DESIRE** FOR GOD TO DO GREAT THINGS HERE IN LAS VEGAS.

We hope that as you read this you will rejoice, commit our needs to prayer, and will pray about coming alongside us to partner with us financially. Please know that your prayers and encouragement are something we value greatly!

### Here Are Some Praises...

We have been pursuing a more permanent place for East Valley Bible Church to meet. We believe the Lord has answered this desire!!! On Tuesday, February 26th we will meet with the city council to get their approval to rent a facility that is a little over 1,900 sqr feet.

We are very excited because this location will give us a place to meet and hold

gatherings anytime. We will be on a major street here in Las Vegas. Something else that is exciting is that it has a lot of parking and good exposure to the community.

Here are some pictures of the facility...





I don't know what you might see when you see these pictures, but I see potential and a place that God can do major work.

This facility has 3 classrooms and a restroom that is not pictured. It also has a little lobby that has the bar area that you see, and then a large room that is not fully pictured. In the large room, we believe that we could comfortably seat 50 people and possibly up to 75 people when needed.

# Would You Please Take A Moment To Pray For This Meeting Space...

#### Pray for God's will in this manner concerning...

- The City Council meeting on Tuesday, February 26th
- We will also have another meeting in March with the County before we get final approval.
- For the lives that could be touched in this facility.
- Supplies needed to make this facility our own.

## Another Praise...

This week (February 18th - 25th) Maranatha Bible Church from Cedar Rapids, IA is sending a missions team to be a help and encouragement to us.



#### **Please Pray...**

- for their travel as they head out of the cold midwest.
- for God to use them to make an IMPACT here at our church.
- for our church to be a blessing to them.
- we have an outreach that they will be helping with on Saturday, February 23rd.



### **Another Praise**

I am super excited to be running my first outreach here at East Valley Bible Church. We are going to have a free cookout for the community at a local park right across from our future location.

#### **Please Pray...**

- for great connections to be made.

- for people to be interested in hearing the gospel.

- that we will see first-time visitors come to East Valley Bible Church as a result of this outreach.

- for good weather. Right now the weather is sunny and about 48 degrees. I pray that it could be in the '60s or higher.

- praise: a lot of things have been donated!



The Lord has given me three people to spend time discipling. I am so excited about this because this is one thing I was designed to do.

Right now we are meeting weekly and spending time in the Word together.

## Please Pray...

- that God will bless these relationships.
- that we will both grow in His Word.
- for wisdom as I explain to them the teachings of God's Word.
- and that we will become more solid in our relationship with God.

#### Praise God For His Continued Work At East Valley Bible Church...







God is giving us more and more ways to serve at East Valley Bible Church.

- We were able to start a worship team that Annie is able to be a part of.
- We were able to hear Mike share his story.
- I had the opportunity to lead communion for the first time.



Praise God!!!

Working a secular job brings different demands and responsibilities that I did not have before. But praise God, they have agreed to not schedule me on Sundays anymore.

## Please Pray...

- the Lord will bless my schedule.

- preferably I'd like to get a consistent morning schedule.

- for my hours to decrease and my monthly support to increase.
- currently, I am working between 32-36 hours a week, and doing church on top

of that. Ideally, I'd like to be around 24-28 hours a week at Costco.

- for my family to get good quality time from me.

- for meaningful relationships at work.



**Rend Collective** wrote a song called "Counting Every Blessing" that has a chorus that goes like this...

I am counting every blessing, counting every blessing Letting go and trusting when I cannot see I am counting every blessing, counting every blessing Surely every season you are good to me

#### Praise God For Supporters Like You...

God has been so good to us even when it's hard to trust and see. Those have been good lyrics to dwell on in this season of our lives.

We thank God that we have people like you lifting us up in prayer, and for supporting us financially. This past month we had a few more people join our monthly financial team. Some gave one large gift and some partnered with us on a monthly bases. We are so humbled by this! So please know that we are extremely grateful!!

Thank God He meets our needs, but He also meets our DESIRES!!!

**Philippians 4:6-7** says, "*Be anxious (don't worry) for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; 7 and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.*"

#### **Please Pray For...**

- God's financial blessing to continue so that I can work less at Costco.

- God to use our finances in a way that we can bless others.

- people to continue to partner with us in prayer.

- If you have any questions about how you might do this please call me at 973-796-6857 or email me at <u>lasvegasvalleyproject@gmail.com</u> or click on the links below that will take you to our mission board (Tentmakers Bible Mission).

Learn More About Us

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#### Last But Not Least - Family Praises...

This past month Lydia prayed to accept Jesus as her personal Savior. After we had Communion a few weeks ago Lydia started asking lots of questions. After several conversations, she recognized her need for Christ. We rejoice that we had the opportunity to lead her to Christ!

My parents were able to come out and spend a few days with us.

On one of my days off we got to spend time as a family at one of my favorite places - Zion National Park.

Annie and I took each of our children out special Valentine dates.

Ruby wanted to go the High Roller which is a large Ferris Wheel. She was disappointed because it did not twirl upside down. LOL - I'm thankful that it did not.

Lydia wanted to go to Chuck E Cheese and get ice cream.

Michael went on a date with Annie to watch the new Spiderman movie.

Chirysh and I went to a Diner and then we went to get her nails done.

Annie and I had a nice evening with no children.

Valentines we were able to carry on an NJ tradition: Dunkin Donuts!!!

I'm so thankful for my family. Here are some of the pictures of the events above.











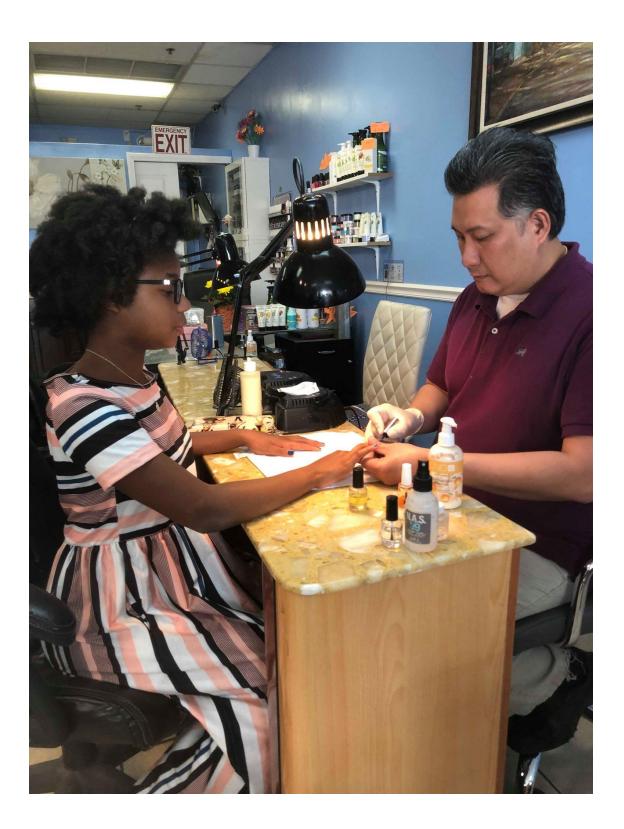


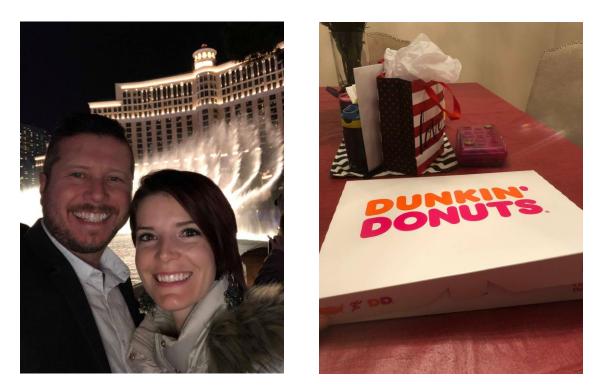












Hopefully, you have seen that we have a lot to praise God for.

Again thank you for reading this, praying for us, and for supporting us financially. We hope that you are encouraged by the mighty hand of God.

Please stay connected with us! We would love to hear from you, and if there is anything we can pray for you or do for you please let us know.

**Ephesians 3:20-21** says, "Now to Him who IS able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us, 21 to Him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen." Love,

#### The Balfours

John 3:30 - He must increase, but I must decrease!