



The Joel Haynes Family

to the Navajo Nation

September-October 2023

Dear Pastor, Church and Praying Friends,

YOUTH CAMP REUNION RALLY – ABUNDANT HELP

In September we hosted our annual Youth Camp Reunion Rally to stir up the young people who attended camp. God blessed the rally with over 150 in attendance! The Lord led me to draw our young people's attention to the life of King Saul. Saul faced challenges, but all the help necessary to be victorious was available to him in abundant measure! He had help from Heaven (God was with him), he had help from a Holy Man of God (Samuel mentored him) and he had help in his Home (Jonathan was a positive influence on him). Unfortunately, Saul abandoned his help in a digression of haughtiness and half-heartedness which eventually led to open hostility toward those whom God had given as helpers in his life. Our young people are receiving abundant help that was not available to generations before. Our challenge to them was not to end up like Saul who abandoned his help in the haughtiness of his heart for the empty assistance of hellish influences.

MISSIONS CONFERENCE – BATTLES AND BLESSINGS

Bro. Matt Johnson, missionary to Mexico, preached our missions conference at Strong Hold Baptist Church in Pinon. What a meeting it was! Space would not allow me to list all the battles that were fought during the week, but the more important note is that God won in the lives of our people and the church's commitment to missions flourished beyond my own expectations. On Saturday, the folks gave \$726 to purchase bunk beds for a girls home in Mexico. On Sunday with joyous emotion, we launched the Hobbs Family out on deputation as church planters to Chinle, AZ. The church family gave over \$500 in cash gifts along with nearly \$3,000 in car parts and labor for their vehicle to allow for smooth deputation travels and took them on for \$200 a month! The high point was that in the final service an adult lady accepted Christ as Savior and the church committed over \$43,000 to faith promise missions for the coming year! Native people are being saved and should be expected, challenged, trained and taught from the Scripture to give so that others might be saved as well.

A BIG MOVE TO PINON – THE WEST MUST BE WON!

As those who have visited our works know, our family drives nearly 150 miles round trip every service to our current church plant in Pinon. Every year, I have sought liberty from the Lord to move to Pinon so as to be deeper in the Western Interior of our Reservation and continue the push for planting churches in some of the most spiritually desolate places in Navajoland. Our family has remained content with the Lord allowing us to live in Nazlini on the grounds of our first church plant and Youth Camp. We love it here, but necessity has stirred my heart to launch out further into the deep. It will be an expensive move that will separate us further from certain conveniences as well as change the organization of our ministry somewhat. However, God has unequivocally given us the directive to move to Pinon. The benefits will far outweigh the challenges as we will have greater opportunity to mentor and disciple the men, women and young people of Strong Hold Baptist Church. This work is growing, vibrant and will prove crucial as an outpost for the westward push. With this move we will be more able to progress with the buildings, Christian School and Evangelism outreaches necessary to plow up new communities for church planting so that when God calls men or sends families, there is already soft soil and seed in the ground. We cannot get too comfortable, lest we become complacent. We must push forward as the coming of our Lord is so near! Pray for the Jenson Family, the Hobbs Family and the Jimenez Family as our hearts desire is to come alongside and help these young couples get established in the Wild West region of Navajoland.

AN UPCOMING MISSIONS TRIP

Fabiola and I along with our three eldest boys will be headed to Guyana, South America in November for a missions trip where I'll be preaching a conference for a national pastor and visiting one of our supported missionaries. I'm excited to continue training my sons in the Lord's work by exposing them to another culture in which there are also tribal people called Amerindians. Please pray that God will use us and do a work in our hearts, especially in the hearts of my mighty men!

Spreading the Light in Navajoland,

Joel N. Haynes