



The Joel Haynes Family

to the Navajo Nation

November-December 2024

Dear Pastor, Church and Praying Friends,

MISSIONS CONFERENCE AND FIRST SERVICE IN THE NEW AUDITORIUM

You may have seen the video, but I want to be sure and praise the Lord for the wonderful work He did in our midst during Missions Conference last month. Each night we had a strong attendance of over 70 of our own church folks! The Spirit of God moved all week and things came to a crescendo Friday night when one of our teen boys, Luther Betonie, came forward and surrendered to God's call on his life to be a missionary! This young man was in a dark place the first time he stepped through the doors of Strong Hold Baptist Church, but two years later is on fire for God. We spent Saturday morning soulwinning and preparing for our first Sunday in the New Auditorium. The building was cold, drywall dust was still layered on the ground, but our hearts were warm as 142 souls walked through the doors and two precious adults walked the aisle to receive Christ as Savior! At the end of service every church member made a Faith Promise Commitment! Amen!

CHRISTMAS OUTREACHES – 4 ADULTS SAVED!

Immediately after the Missions Conference we began to prepare to utilize the Christmas season to spread the Gospel. Our folks distributed 1,500 tracts, we sang Christmas Carols in front of Bashas' Grocery Store, the Marathon Gas Station and then paraded past 200 houses with gift bags, tracts and a crowd of about 40 folks prepared to jump out at a moment's notice and sing to the glory of God! A few days after we had our Church Gift Exchange and read the Christmas Story from God's Word as a church family. Then this past Sunday, God poured out His favor. In the morning service, we had 161 in attendance where a young man from the Crow Indian Reservation in Montana was visiting and he walked the aisle to accept Christ! In the afternoon, folks feverishly cleaned up, moved chairs into our new auditorium that we had been warming with kerosine heaters for the Christmas Play that would start at 6pm Sunday Night. 176 people showed up to view the play, some driving from over two hours away and many who were not even in service that morning! We had a miniature donkey, live sheep, a children's choir, actors and much more! At the end of service, I preached the Gospel. In the invitation, I asked those who raised their hand signaling that they desired to accept God's Unspeakable Gift to look up at me. Two men we have been praying for, Jay and Edison, as well as the mother of some of our bus kids, Marietta, looked up at me. I asked, "Are you serious about your desire to receive Christ and put your hope completely in Him?" Each responded. I said, "If you meant business, as you exit, I want you to ask Bro. Hobbs to hand you a church tract. This will signify that you meant what you prayed." Bro. Hobbs reported afterward, "Pastor, every one of those adults approached me and asked for a tract!"

"I DON'T EVER WANT TO GO BACK TO THAT LIFE"

In between the Christmas Service and the evening Christmas Play, a man stepped in through the church doors. He asked, "Do you remember me?" I said, "Yes! I do!" It was the father of one of our teen girls. He had received Christ on Father's Day Sunday after our Navajo Nation Cowboy Revival. Two weeks after his profession, we took the teens out soulwinning and his daughter said, "Let's go visit my dad!" To our heartbreak, we found him shirtless, drunk and beligerant. His daughter was broken and began to struggle spiritually ever since. Shortly after, I could not find him home at any of my attempts to visit. I asked him, "Where have you been?" He said, "I've been in jail for five months. A preacher came into the jail, studied the Bible with me and told me that as soon as I get out, I need to come to Strong Hold Baptist Church, get baptized and start serving God!" He came with his overjoyed daughter to the Christmas Play that night and starts discipleship this week! As he left the building, he said, "Pastor, I don't ever want to go back to that life I was living before. Please don't quit on me." Glory to God! It just takes time and patience. God is working on our converts!

ORLANDO, RAY AND IDA NEED SALVATION!

As space begins to fail me, I must ask you to include the names listed above on your prayer list. Each has a story that could fill a book and each are asking questions that show me they are leaning into the Light. Let's lift them up together that they might find "The Way, the Truth and the Life"! We appreciate you all very much and wish you a merry Christmas!

Spreading the Light *from* Navajoland,

Joel N. Haynes