

NEWS FROM
The Crittendens

MITCHELL, ALEXA, AISLYNN, ZANDER, & PEARCE

• *Church Planting in Desert Hills, Arizona* •

January-March 2020 Update

It's hard to believe the year 2020 is already a quarter of the way complete, and as is probably the case with your ministry, the spread of the Covid-19 virus in mid-March threw a major monkey wrench in our calendar, plans, and worship services. Yet we wanted to update you on how God is still working and reasons why we are still rejoicing even during these unprecedented days.



Salvation of Our Oldest Child

One of the joys of ministry is seeing someone accept Christ, but it is certainly all the more special when that someone is a member of your own immediate family! For the past few months our daughter Aislynn has been asking questions at the dinner table and bedtime about Jesus, the cross, and salvation. Each time Alexa and I would answer them and explain the gospel, but in our follow-up questions it was clear there was a need to keep the conversation going and continue another time rather than force the issue. On March 10th, Zander's birthday, right as we were headed out the door for a birthday celebration, Aislynn pulled me aside and again asked to talk about how she could know she was going to heaven. The birthday celebration was put on halt temporarily (much to her brother's dismay!) and after reviewing the gospel and enduring a thorough questioning, Aislynn understood her need for Jesus to be her Saviour. She called on him to do so right there in our house! Now our house celebrates two birthdays on that date, although Zander was quick to remind us that only he gets the presents!

Further Answers to Prayer

In previous letters we have requested prayer for additional younger families and children to be added to the church so that this aspect of our ministry could further grow. The first part of the year we have seen an increase in visitors that would fall under this category, and we are particularly excited about a couple named Kirk and Jericha who have two small children.

These two adults came to our church having been saved previously, but never having a church home in which to grow. They found us online looking for a church that uses the King James Version. With questions such as, "I was baptized before I got saved, but I'm not sure

that was right. Can I get baptized again?" and "I need to take the next step in my faith and share it with others. Can you teach me how to do that?", their zeal has been encouraging! Continue to pray with us that their zeal would not diminish and even rub off on others in the church!

Covid-19 Adjustments

With new safety precautions coming down almost weekly, in the past few weeks we've found ourselves in the same position as all churches - adjusting the way they assemble and minister to their community. Instead of gathering in a school weekly, we now live stream our services from our house, which has allowed some of our shut-ins to be in church for the first time in a while. The kids still help with the setting up and testing of the equipment, there's just not as many chairs to stack at the end of the day! While these are certainly unusual days for the local church we believe this is in one sense an open door to minister to people in a different way than before. Know that we covet your prayers and we are praying for you as you navigate through this season!



Pearce testing out the microphone and getting ready for church from the dining room!

Praise Reports

1. Salvation of our daughter Aislynn!
2. Answer to prayer and increase in younger families

Prayer Requests

1. In recent days there has been an increase in members without work during the Covid-19 shutdown
2. Wisdom and grace to oversee the physical and spiritual health of the church during this season

Please send all monthly support to our sending church:

North Valley Baptist Church, 2109 E. Rose Garden Lane, Phoenix, AZ 85024
Checks payable to North Valley Baptist Church, Memo: Crittenden Support

Our mailing address is:

3717 W. Cielo Grande, Glendale, AZ 85310

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For more information follow the Crittenden family through any of the social media avenues below: