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Yá'át'ééh,

As we look into October, it's hard to believe that winter is beginning to settle in and that the temperatures are dropping. This month has gone by so very, very fast and there have been so many changes. Because of the children up at East moving to the dormitory at Wingate, we are moving the service to Saturday night up at East in hopes of being able to see the kids. We have also moved Tuesday night family Bible study at the Miller Center to Sunday morning before the worship service in hopes that it will open the door for some extra attendance. This will bring our scheduling of the 3 locations and services in closer alignment in scheduling and planning. It will also free up our Monday and Tuesday nights.

As many of you have been aware, the flooding here has been much more severe than we've ever seen before. At this present moment there's about 2 inches of mud on the paved road in front of our house, and we are expecting more rain this week.

Our time in New York was great! It was a great joy to see our nephew's wedding. I was able to have a little bit of quiet time and get some really important things accomplished. The final story set is finished, and this completes our discipleship and leadership development strategy. It begins with the story set on our identity in Christ for those who've made a profession of faith and have been or are planning to be baptized. The second step is church membership, which covers the characteristics of church membership and the typical functions and offices in most churches, like: Pastor, Deacon, Deaconess, Elder, member, and attender. The third step in the process is the characteristics of a healthy church. The goal here is to be able to teach people, whether here or someplace else, how to identify a healthy church or to know what they're looking for in a church. The fourth and final step is the "52 Amazing Bible Stories" Set, which is 52 Bible stories that teach doctrine and help people to understand what Scripture says, as well as point out some differences among many denominations. This was a project that was started many years ago. I am excited to finally have accomplished it! This fits very well in the First Nations Boot Camp as we prepare others to move into full-time First Nations ministry.

If you have come here in the past couple of months, you know that for almost a year we have been going through the book of Acts. In Acts chapter 20:21, you can read about when Paul was being encouraged to not go back to Jerusalem because of the thousands of people who had believed in Jesus but still followed the Law. It was this group of people who wanted to persecute Paul. As I read that passage, I was reminded of the challenges we face in ministry. They are sometimes similar to the challenges Paul was facing. His challenges did not necessarily come from the non-believers or those who had not followed Christ, but from those who had actually come to saving faith in Jesus but struggled to accept changes that Paul was promoting. As I read through this passage and thought of the ministry here, I was challenged to think about the fact that we should be fighting to reach lost people instead of struggling to be brothers and sisters in Christ. In my years of ministry, some of the hardest things and challenges were not figuring out how to bring the good news of the gospel to those who have not heard but dealing with the constant turmoil of just simply being part of the body of

Christ. Over the years I am sure I have been a contributor to this problem. I would like to encourage us all to do our very best to accomplish all of the "one another's" in the Scriptures.

When we returned home from New York, we had had deaths in two of the families of the church. The people who passed had not attended the church, but their families were very much part of the churches in Journey and Miller community. As we were preparing for the funeral service at Journey Church, the grandma of the young lady who had passed away said that she had been baptized here at Journey Church many years ago when the church was called "First Indian Baptist Mission of Gallup". When we came here several years ago, we were going through piles of papers and things. We found a binder from that time. I brought the binder out to show her and discovered that one of the photos presented in that binder was of that grandma and her sister. Over the years of our being here it has been a continuing blessing to see how this church has been a light in this community for so many years for the First Nations people of Gallup, and how God has used us to minister to this community generations later. I stand



amazed at the sovereignty of God made evident by this chain of events: Years ago I made a visit to a man who was not well. He was a man I didn't even know. I prayed for that man at the request of another who occasionally visited. That small moment of prayer and the impact of a mission team several years later brought that gentleman to Journey Church where he has been attending for almost 2 years. Last week I got to meet his grandma and his aunt who had been baptized in this church over 60 years ago. These events are a reminder of the faithfulness of those in the past and the faithfulness of those in the present. I want to thank you who have loved and generously supported us over our years here. I would like

to thank those who picked up some of the needs for the apartment upstairs. We are looking forward to getting that place ready for the next couple to come in January. Please pray that God will send the right couple or individual at that time. We are specifically seeking a couple who would want to stay here and become a permanent part of the BTG ministry or at the very least stay and fill one of the pastorless First Nations churches here in New Mexico.

Amazon wish list for Creator's Fellowship & Bridging the Gap Ministries can be found at https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/2PK9LTJ2ZZJK2?ref=wl_share

Tax-deductible gifts can be sent to:

BTG Ministries (see above address) for ministry or living expenses

OR

Journey Church expenses

**Journey Church
501 South 3rd St.
Gallup, NM 87301**

Creator's Fellowship expenses

**Creator's Fellowship
PO Box 1498
Church Rock, NM 87311**