



The Delhotals to Santa Barbara

February 19, 2026

Greetings Praying Friends,

It is a joy and privilege to serve the Lord in these dark days and in this dark area. While it is always tempting to sit and “curse the darkness,” God has “...commanded the light to shine...” (2 Cor. 4:6) and He is not done working in this world, even in California. Your prayers are greatly appreciated! Please continue to strive together with us in your prayers to God for us.

Over the course of the last couple of months, we have enjoyed seeing the spiritual growth of the individuals that make up our little band. It is thrilling to hear young Christians asking for prayer for family and coworkers that they are witnessing to. It is exciting to see former Catholics explaining to me what is wrong with their former religion (instead of me having to warn them!) and becoming increasingly burdened for their lost family. Seeing people take the Bible seriously in a desire to learn and apply the Word, I begin to understand what Paul meant when he gave thanks for the believers in Thessalonica, noting that the Word of God “...effectually worketh also in you...” We even have several interested in Bible institute-style classes. Please pray for wisdom scheduling these and that God will work to raise up long-term leaders from within the church.

Alvaro and Jasmin did return to church after their bouts with illness and have been growing by leaps and bounds as now Alvaro has begun to work through the discipleship materials as well. He was already growing and reading the Bible on his own, but felt he was too busy to meet for discipleship. After seeing how God was using discipleship in others, he decided to commit to it and we are excited to see God work in that family.

Scotty began attending towards the end of last year and has begun discipleship. He and Robert will be baptized March 7. I am praying that we will have at least one more join them. Pray that Eric will take this important step. Also pray for Soomin. She was born in Korea, married an American and ended up in Santa Barbara. She is a sweet young lady that has really enjoyed the preaching, but her husband does not know the Lord. Pray for Soomin’s continued growth and that her husband would be drawn to Christ.

Sebastian has begun to meet with me for discipleship again and has joined us for some fellowship activities. He continues to have his mind clouded by Seventh Day Adventist teachings. Please pray that he would allow his thinking to be transformed by the Word of God. Keith (former JW) has been hit and miss with discipleship meetings, but has been growing in his understanding. Please continue to pray that he will become faithful to discipleship and church.

We recently had our first missionaries present to the church. The whole church was moved and excited to invest in missions.

Finally, please join with us in praying for Resurrection Sunday. It is well known that people are more likely to visit church that week than any time of the year. We are blessed to have Lighthouse Baptist in La Verne, CA provide a bulk mailing once again this year and we are making plans to work hard to get visitors here to hear the Gospel. Pray that God will richly bless!

For His Glory,
Chad Delhotal

Prayer Requests

- Zeal and wisdom in evangelism throughout the church.
- Keith (former JW) would commit to be faithful and grow
- Sebastian would completely come out of Seventh Day Adventism
- Guidance to and provision of a better meeting place.

Praises

- Growth in disciples
- Many opportunities to preach the Gospel
- Upcoming baptisms

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