The Dundons

Missionaries to the Deaf in Philadelphia





Matt, Colleen & Aiden

Current support level: 100%

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Extremely Grateful

This holiday season was definitely an emotional roller coaster for us. As some of you may know, I had a very close brush with death during a bicycle accident right before Thanksgiving. I'm just very thankful that I came out nearly unscathed.

The Accident

I have been trying a new routine where I'd be more active. One morning, I went out on a bicycle ride. I was on a two way street near my home, and had to cross the lane of oncoming traffic to get on a bike trail. There was a trash truck behind me who was trying to pass me by moving into the incoming lane on the left. The next thing I saw was the side of the trash truck, my left shoulder being inches away from it. I swerved to the right trying to move away from the truck. That is the last thing I remember until waking up in the middle of the street.

What seem to have happened was that the back wheel of the truck, which sticks out from the side of the vehicle, hit the back wheel of my bicycle. My body then launched into the air, made a spin, and landed on the street.

My blackout was the most surreal experience I ever had. I was completely unconscious, and yet aware of my loss. It was as if I suddenly lost all of my senses, floating in a void, trying to mentally grasp at something but finding nothing. The next thing I remember is slowly waking up on the middle of street. I first thought it was a bad dream so I tried to go back to sleep, hoping I'd wake up to a different dream, then I realized it was real and got up slowly. The trash truck was parked and the driver was standing next to me. I looked around and noticed he had already gotten my bike and gathered all of my belongings. I felt something on the back of my head so I touched it and my hand was filled with blood, I also noticed a puddle of it in the middle of the street. He had also found my phone and gave it to me so I

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World Wide New Testament Baptist Missions 2069 County Line Rd P.O. Box 725 Kings Mountain, NC 28086 (704) 730-1440 www.wwntbm.com called my wife. Soon after, she arrived and so did the police and the ambulance.

I rode in the ambulance and was taken to hospital where the first thing they did was to frisk me. Welcome to Philly! They checked my body and took scans. They told me via an interpreter on a screen that there were a bunch of bruises up and down on my back but not a single broken bone. In the end, I needed ten stitches on the back of my head and got sent home that night.

Over the next month I had bone bruises and only took regular pain meds for the first week.

The following Sunday was one of the largest services we ever had, about forty people came. Granted, we had already scheduled a Thanksgiving potluck at my house after church. I was only able to preach one message for our main service and did a Bible Q&A for Sunday School instead. The Q&A went surprisingly well, a lot of people asked insightful questions about the Bible was I was able to give out answers from Scripture. I will probably turn it into an occasional thing.

I'm just very grateful for the many things that did not happen, that I did not pass away, go under the truck, have broken bones, etc. I'm thankful that I'm still here for my family and for my church.

After the accident, we learned that we had to go through both of our car insurances, even though I wasn't driving my car. At first, I thought the truck's insurance will pay for the hospital bills, but it was a city owned vehicle and the city of Philadelphia doesn't have any insurance, it's fully self paid. Since the state of Pennsylvania is a "no fault" state when it comes to accidents, they're not liable to pay for anything. My insurance's personal injury protection wasn't high enough to pay for all of the hospital bills. In the end, if we want them to pay the bills, we have to go through the legal process.

So now we're working with an attorney and he believes we have a good case. Pray that everything will go smoothly and that the hospital bills, plus the attorney fees, will get paid. Apparently there is an average of 400 trash truck accidents inside the city of Philadelphia each year, that's 1-2 per day. Our attorney specializes in this.

College student visits

Our church regularly gets students from Princeton University in New Jersey for class credits. They usually stay for one service and then leave. They don't always understand everything so it can be hard to get the Gospel across to them. During this Fall/Winter season, we had a lot of them coming and some stayed with us to chat. We always give them visitor bags with Chick tracts in them. Please pray for us to be able to reach out to them better somehow.





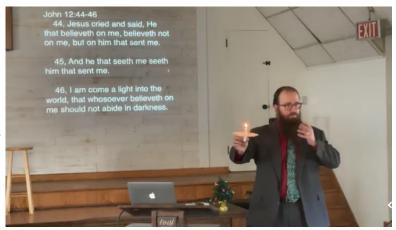
Our first Lord's supper!

After two and a half years since we started our church, we finally had our first Lord's Supper on the first Sunday in December. As mentioned in my last prayer letter, we had too many Christians with sin in their lives when we started the church and thus had decided to wait to observe the Lord's Supper. After more than two years, seeing those same Christians grow spiritually and reduce some of their bad lifestyles, while the Lord seems to have swept out those unwilling to let go of their sins, it seemed

more safe to observe this important ordinance. After my series about the Lord's Supper, they seemed to have a much better understanding and of course I gave out a brief reminder of what it is about and how we need to examine ourselves. We plan to do this once per quarter going forward now.

Christmas candlelight service

As our annual tradition, we had a candlelight service on the Sunday before Christmas. Some of our people did a short Christmas play as well. My message is similar each year this time around: Christ gives us light, and we are to share that light with others. I illustrated this by representing a lighter as Christ, our candle as each of us. First I light my candle with the lighter, symbolizing my belief in Him, then my candle lights one other person's



candle, symbolizing as me witnessing to them. Then they light each other candles with their candles, I use this to illustrate our duties to witness to others and share the Light of Christ to them.

Prayer Requests

- For our case go smoothly and quickly as possible
- For our church to grow spiritually
- For the deaf people in and around Philadelphia to become saved
- For us to have wisdom and strength as we continue this ministry