

# The Jenney Family

Church Planting In Southern CA

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SHEPHERD'S CALL  
BAPTIST CHURCH

Dear Praying Friends,

Much has happened since our last letter. We have had two births, that of our first baby girl Valiana Faith and that of Shepherd's Call Baptist Church. Valiana was born at 3 AM on May 1<sup>st</sup>; she shares a birthday with Noah who just turned two. The delivery was very quick as we arrived at the hospital (about 40 minutes from home) around 2 AM. I'm thankful we made it there! Mom and baby are doing well! We are so thankful for God's gift. The boys are so in love with "baby sister". We were very busy the past few months preparing for our first church service on May 19<sup>th</sup>. We had a wonderful service with 24 in attendance including Charity's parents and sister. It was a blessing to have them here helping. As we meet people who came to the first few services, it has become even more clear why God called us here. While we have had a great beginning, it has not come without challenge. Anything done for God seldom goes without being challenged by our adversary. It is fitting that we have begun the church with a series in the book of Job.

Many of the other Independent Baptist Churches in San Bernardino County have been a tremendous blessing. They have taken us on for support and provided for much of our startup costs and equipment. We are truly blessed to have such great friends nearby with a heart for the High Desert.

A few weeks before our first service, I paid to have postcards mailed to the three zip codes in our area. I was excited that everyone was going to get the Gospel and an invitation in their mailbox. As soon as they hit mailboxes, I received a few calls one of which was our landlord. It has been in my heart and prayers to see him and his wife join us at church. When I invited him a while back, he did not seem interested. After seeing the postcard, he called me to tell me he was coming and has been to two services so far. Charity met a man at the park who has two young girls. It is a blessing to hear he was excited about a Baptist Church starting. We seem to have really connected with him and his wife. The majority of those who have come to the church have no background in an Independent Baptist Church and so far, almost every visitor has expressed their desire to continue coming. It is like they were looking for an Independent Baptist Church without even knowing it.

Most of our visitors have come from the postcards. However, we have had some opposition in that area. On the back of the postcard is a very clear presentation of the Gospel and with that I was prepared to receive opposition. Out of the 8,200 postcards that we paid to have printed and mailed, my best guess is that maybe only 3,000 actually were mailed. After looking into it, I believe two of the post offices may have discarded them, but I have no proof. As I study Job, I am reminded that God is in control even though it's quite disheartening. We are extremely thankful however that we have had about 13 visitors from the postcards that were sent out in just the small area of Pinon Hills. Please pray as we make visits and try to establish relationships with those who have visited that they would remain open to God's Word. Please pray for salvation decisions to be made. Thank you so much, dear friends!

Yours for the Sake of the Gospel,

Stephen, Charity, Judson(4), Samuel(3), Noah(2 on MAY 1<sup>st</sup>) and Valiana (1 month)