



May 09, 2018

Having so fond an affection for you, we were well-pleased to impart to you not only the gospel of God but also our own lives, because you had become very dear to us.

1 Thessalonians 2:8

An update on what has happened recently (January, February, March, and April):

TDCJ:

- Juan is still working in Rockport (which had major damage due to hurricane Harvey). He works with a demolition company. Please keep him in your prayers. He continues to struggle just being out of prison. I am still hoping that he will come back into a relationship with the Lord.

TYC (McFadden Ranch):

- Chuck Grice continues with me in leading Bible study at McFadden Ranch on Monday nights. We average about 2 to 3 youth – we have a lot of competition with other things scheduled on this night.
- Took several youth to speak at the Grapevine Lion's Club. All went well and the youth did a great job speaking.
- Got to take several youth to Grapevine Recycle. Youth enjoyed working the event and when we were done, we got to go to the movie "I Can Only Imagine." It was a very good movie.
- Also we were able to finally go to tattoo removal. The youth can opt to get their tattoos removed which will help them get jobs – especially if the tattoos are gang related.
- We also mowed the Grapevine lot behind the bank for the upcoming Main Street Days.

Youth Village:

- Group Bible studies STILL struggle to continue at Youth Village. Please pray that God would speak to their hearts and that it would make an impact on them and they would put into practice what they learn!
- Youth Village got a new superintendent a couple of months ago. It is good that I have worked with the new superintendent before, when he was at TYC. I was able to sit down with him and explain where we are in relation to having Bible study. He is willing to work with me – but will have to see what he comes up with. Please pray that a mutual time will be made available.

After Care:

- Edward – is still going to a junior college in Houston. He had to move in with a mentor as his mother moved out on him. He is struggling as sometimes we all do. Please pray for him!
- Alejandro – currently in Justin and now working at a warehouse. He is doing well, but please pray for his salvation.

Hope Inn Christ (Decatur, TX):

- There are two youth at Hope Inn Christ right now!
- Due to their and my schedule, I have been able to spend only a day with them.
- Please pray for the new house parents as this is real new to them!

Teen Life Challenge (Desoto, TX):

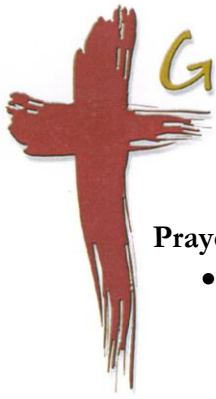
- Praise! I have been going to Teen Life Challenge for right at two years now. They finally started letting me be more involved with the men that are there! I have done a few Bible studies with them so far! (I am a substitute.)
- Andrew has a job working at a Jiffy Lube and has almost finished a second semester of college!
- James is doing real well. He got baptized a couple of weeks ago!
- I am currently working closely with several of the young men and trying to be an encouragement to them. A couple have graduated the first part of the program and are now in the re-entry phase.
- I have also been able to help some of these young men get IDs, permits, and driver's licenses.

And again, THANK YOU for your continued prayers and support. On the next page are some areas of prayer needs that are on my heart at this time. Some requests you may have seen before as they still apply!

ONLY in HIS strength,

Ernie Black

P.S. Please note the new Grace to Youth email address: gracetoyouth@yahoo.com



Grace to Youth, Inc.

Reaching out to Youth with the Hope of Christ

Prayer Requests:

- Pray that when we share the gospel that it would be accurate and with the love of God, that we would speak clearly, and that the hearts of the young men would be open to hear and respond to God's Word.
- Please pray for youth at McFadden, Youth Village, Hope Inn Christ, and Teen/Life Challenge for their hearts to be open and for them to come to know Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior.
- That the Lord continues to use me to speak and work with these youth.
- Direction for Youth Village and the youth there.
- For Edward as I try to help him stay on track with God and college and work.
- For the other young men who are starting college.
- Pray for Juan, Alejandro, Edward, James, and Andrew.

Praises:

- For Chuck Grice who **continues** to help with Bible study at McFadden. He is a great encouragement and blessing to me!
- Just for the opportunity to work with these youth and young men!
- For Teen Life Challenge letting me work with the young men in their care.
- Two youth at Hope Inn Christ. One is doing well!
- James got baptized two weeks ago and I was able to be there!