

August has come and gone, and with it so has the first anniversary of Victory Baptist Church. When the church opened its doors on August 7, 2022, we could not have imagined all that the Lord had in store. Our family counts it a great honor to be used by God in His work here in Pinda. The first anniversary has left us praising God for all He has accomplished in this past year, and greatly excited and encouraged for the work that is ahead.

In the weeks leading up to the anniversary conference, many members of the church worked together to fill John and Romans with invitations. Bro. Allen Johnson and his group of 25 people arrived from the States 5 days before the start of the conference. In those 5 days, almost 30,000 John and Romans were distributed throughout the city of Pinda. These efforts provided us with the opportunity to make many valuable contacts. Before we knew it, the time of our conference had arrived. We knew that much prayer, time, and energy had been put into the preparation of this conference. It was a beautiful example of each doing their part in serving Christ. And the Lord greatly blessed these efforts! Around 35 people visited the church for the first time throughout the three services of the conference. Five souls came to know Christ as their Savior! On the Sunday morning of our anniversary weekend, Alexandre, a faithful teen, followed the Lord in believers baptism! His family has been attending faithfully for many months. Rejoicing with his parents over their son's obedience in baptism was a precious part of our church's celebration. We are deeply thankful for those who came with Wings Bearing Precious Seed to minister here in Pinda!

For the past year, our Wednesday evenings have been a time of one-on-one discipleship and prayer for those in attendance. However in the last few months, and especially since the anniversary conference, the number of people attending and desiring to be discipled is much more than our number of disciples can minister to. For this cause, we are starting to schedule more weekly visits in homes in order to continue discipleship for these believers. Would you please pray with us that God will bless these times of discipleship? In doing so, God will also use those who have been discipled to in turn disciple new believers.

We praise the Lord that the church is in a phase of growth, both spiritually and numerically! And of course, with more growth comes more need. It has been so exciting to see faithful people of the church stepping up to meet these needs - giving rides to and from church, cleaning the building, helping with children's classes, etc. Please pray with us that we will continue to have God's vision as a church for the future and in our service to Him!

Once again, we want to sincerely thank each and every one of you for your prayers and sacrificial giving! Many of you reached out to let us know you would be praying specifically for the conference and John and Romans distribution. We want you to know that not only was that a great encouragement to us, but we witnessed God answer these prayers. We are all doing well with school in full swing. This year is flying by but His faithfulness and greatness remain EVER the same!

Keith, Jamie, Lainey, Clayton & Silas Putnam

Sent by: Northwest Bible Baptist Church, Elgin IL

