



HOMEMISSION REPORT - JULY 2020

OUR TEAM, YOUR HOME, GOD'S MISSION

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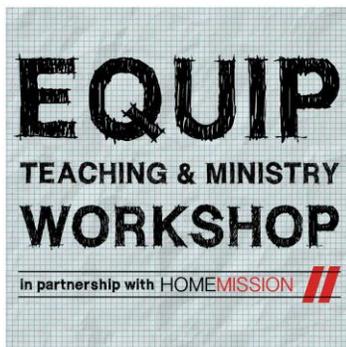
Dear loved ones in the Lord,

I doubt anyone has ever experienced a July such as the one we've had. And yet, much has happened within *HomeMission*. I have spoken with brethren around the country. Many are doing innovative things to spread the Gospel. Matt Wocjik, preacher at the Metro church of Christ in Gresham, Oregon, has reported they are still in phase one of recovery, but that has not stopped them. They are meeting in 70+ cars outside the building. The people stay in their car and they worship together. They turn to fm 88.5 on their radios and participate in the service. They also stream their services on YouTube and Facebook. An average of 300 to 1600 views occur each week. Since this began, they have had 6 baptisms, 2 as a direct result of watching the live stream. The community leaders asked them to continue their food pantry and Saturday morning breakfast. They were concerned that people were going hungry and would be more susceptible to the coronavirus. This has made a great impact on the community. We sent them a case of "Foundations for Disciples", "Circle of Influence" and "The Rest of the Story". We have sent materials to all parts of the country this past month. Last year, God enabled us to send out nearly \$100,000 worth of material. This has been only a part of the *HomeMission* success story. All glory belongs to God. While speaking with James Rogers, the preacher at the Westside church of Christ in Ft. Dodge Iowa, he mentioned there had been 6 baptisms this month alone. May Jesus be praised! Jack Cummings went to help the folks in Grayville, Illinois. He is going back to do a leadership workshop in September. Other evangelists will be going to destinations around the country this fall (we hope). Susie and I are still going to therapy after our surgeries, but we will be visiting churches on weekends in the near future. Jim Lucas is still working with the Freetown Road church of Christ in Grand Prairie, Texas.

We are using this time to develop new material, and organize and re-energize *HomeMission*, and the churches we work with now and in the past. We have some exciting plans we will be sharing with you next month.

May the Lord bless and keep you all.

Love, John and Susie



The EQUIP Teaching and Ministry Workshop, scheduled for **September 11-12, 2020** at the Brown Street Church of Christ in Waxahachie, Texas,

has been canceled due to lingering concerns related to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

Please mark your calendars for the 2021 workshop: **September 10-11, 2021**.

An article from bro. Russell Blackwell, elder at Cox Blvd (Sheffield AL) Church of Christ

At work for the Lord.. 2Timothy 2:2

This charge to Timothy did not happen overnight but took years. He had to be taught and he had mentors that guided and helped him. The same is true with congregations and elderships now more than ever but there are not many congregations and elderships willing to do this. One congregation that has experienced this is in Childersburg, AL. Their leadership realized they must do things differently if they were to grow for the Lord. The planning for this change began some time ago when they realized how few of their members could teach the Gospel of Jesus Christ. They began researching for possible solutions and heard about the *HomeMission* program under the oversight of the Faith Village church of Christ, Wichita Falls, TX. The *HomeMission* Program provides evangelists, classes, and materials on how to help small, struggling congregations to evangelize their community and grow....and they do it for FREE. John Orr serves as the Director of *HomeMission* and he and his wife, Susie, made several trips to Childersburg to advise and help this congregation. Childersburg, like many

small congregations, had had several challenges that impacted their membership in a negative manner, and they realized they needed additional help. *HomeMission* contacted the eldership at Cox Blvd church of Christ, Sheffield AL and asked for their help in working with the elders at Childersburg. From that point, both congregations and *HomeMission* worked together and discussed a Back to the Bible Workshop and a Back to the Bible Campaign sometime in 2019-2020. Then the Pandemic of 2020 arrived.

Despite the virus, the three Childersburg elders, Gene Welch, Mike Ray and Ray Giddens, remained firm in wanting their members to learn a way to successfully teach others the plan of salvation. The same can be said for the eldership at Cox Blvd who have been just as firm in their commitment to teaching the Back to the Bible (B2B) Workshops and conducting campaigns. Cox Blvd has conducted over 70 Back to the Bible workshops and campaigns since 2007. Cox Blvd's elders began meeting with the elders at Childersburg and began to plan a B2B Workshop and Campaign so their members could reach and teach the lost in their community and the neighboring communities. After the first of the year, a Sunday was designated to have 2 motivational classes conducted by John Alexander and Roger Johnson from Cox Blvd to not only inspire the members but show them how to lead people to Christ using the Safety Chain of Scriptures method. After their presentation, the congregation committed to not only a workshop but a summer campaign.

The Childersburg church of Christ minister, Lamar Russell, kept the elders at Cox Blvd updated and informed about the meetings of his eldership and any questions they had about the workshop or a future campaign. The workshop date was moved twice and even with the COVIN-19 virus, the workshop date was set for 10-11 July 2020. Ironically, this was the date (July 10-17) that Childersburg had set for the 14th annual Back to the Bible Campaign.

The workshop was advertised with invitations to members from the local congregations

in and around Childersburg. The Back to the Bible workshop was conducted on Saturday 11 July from 8:00 AM to 3:00 PM. There were 25 people who attended the workshop.

Andrew Wynne from the Memphis School of Preaching and his wife Nicole were also in attendance (Cox Blvd provides financial support for the Wynnes). The Childersburg elders decided to buy Bibles and notebooks and not only conduct a class for the members who were not able to attend the Saturday workshop but to have follow up sessions for those who did attend and were not able to finish marking their Bibles.

The Back to the Bible Program is a part of the Cox Blvd church of Christ's Mission Program and is designed to help Christians reach and successfully teach neighbors, family members, and people in their community using the Bible only. The Back to the Bible Program has been successful helping small, struggling congregations in Alabama, Tennessee, and Mississippi through workshops that teach their members how to reach and teach the lost in their community. This program has been presented in Georgia, Oklahoma, Mississippi, Texas, Kansas, Nebraska, Ohio, Guyana, and Korea. The Back to the Bible mission program began as an outreach at the Northwest church of Christ, Lawton, OK in 1975 using the Safety Chain of Scriptures. The Cox Blvd Eldership committed in 2007 to using this method to teach one-on-one Bible Studies and to conduct an annual campaign. When invited by an eldership, Cox Blvd will meet with their elders and conduct free workshops for congregations who request to learn a simple way to teach family, friends, and neighbors the plan of salvation. This is the command Paul gave Timothy in 2nd Timothy 2:2 and is the blueprint the elders at Cox Blvd church of Christ follow. Any eldership or congregation interested in learning more about the Back to the Bible program should contact the Cox Blvd Elders at
Cox Blvd Church of Christ
303 Cox Blvd Sheffield, AL 35660
256-383-1618/383-1905



News

Anyone (or an acquaintance of one who receives this newsletter) who lives in the Grand Junction TN area and needs a church home, please contact GrandjunctionTNCoc@gmail.com or call 731-472-0432. Assistance with some door-knocking in the community would be welcome.

Elders of congregations of the Lord's Church are welcome to receive *EldersNet*, a quarterly newsletter written by elders, for elders. Please email homemission444@gmail.com to let us know your interest. You may leave your mailing address for a paper copy or your email address for a digital one.

Check out *HomeMission's* [YouTube page](#) for evangelistic videos!