

The Project SoL Report



Episode 6: November 2021

To God's holy people, the faithful ones in Jesus, our Messiah:

Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus, the Messiah, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ. He chose us, in His Son, before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in His sight. In love, He predestined us for adoption to sonship through Jesus Christ, in accordance with His pleasure and will – to the praise of His glorious grace, which He has freely given us in the One He loves. In Him, we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace that He has lavished on us. (Eph 1:1-8a)

Learning Lessons

This isn't just a flowery greeting from the Apostle Paul, it is a profound statement about who we are and how much God loves us. And Paul's greeting sets the theme of this update, since God has been teaching us about dependence (sonship) and the need to allow God to be in control and to bear the weight of responsibility for His plans and purposes.

I (Jeff) have been wrestling a lot with the Lord this year. It was difficult for all of us when the Nenns left, and I have struggled particularly with my clear failure to show compassion to them when they were hurting and needed to slow down our efforts last year. In fact, in general, I feel I have demonstrated a profound lack of mercy and patience toward the entire launch team. I was too focused on the work and not focused enough on the people, and that strained all our relationships. I share this with all of you with a heart of confession and repentance, and in the hope that you will pray for me (and for all of us) to grow in humility and grace and for the Project SoL team, each of whom has faced many struggles on this mission field over the last year. (See more re: prayer requests at the end of this update.)

A Season of Transition

For many reasons, we are in a season of transition as a team.

1. First, we want to direct the bulk of our energy into prayer and developing relationships, both internally within our team, with our neighbors, and with other Christ-followers and churches.
2. Second, we want to encourage and support the teenagers in our families to develop new relationships and draw nearer to the Lord themselves.
3. Third, we want to develop a deep, prayerful openness with the Lord to allow Him to direct where this ministry might go and what He might build in and through us. We want to stay in step with Him as He works.
4. Fourth, we want to cast a wider net to draw in partners to work together on whatever the Lord calls us to.

As a result, we have decided to "pause" the church, and focus more on these things. We have discontinued meeting together on Sunday mornings, and have instead begun to visit area churches, in an attempt to develop relationships and learn what God is doing in the area. The goal there is to settle at a church where we can serve and grow and perhaps eventually partner together in whatever God calls us to in the next season. We also continue to engage our neighbors where they are in everyday life. For example, the Andersens recently have begun hosting game nights, and the Blocks continue to invite neighbors over for dinners and to engage the folks at their gym. Finally, we are launching a Thursday night prayer meeting this month, and are welcoming anyone who has a heart to pray for God's Kingdom to come in power in their neighborhood. We intend to pray together for revival and spiritual awakening, as well as dream together about how we might be part of it.

And we'll see what God does!

In the meantime, we will continue to exist as a church body. We continue to raise money for everyday ministry, for benevolence, and for our (very small) operations budget. We also continue to dream about and save for the eventual investment in a community center. We as a launch team continue to meet to pray and deepen our relationships with one another. The elders will continue to meet for oversight. Etc. But our focus is on prayer and relationships, not on building a church at this time. God's phrase for Jeff in this season has been "depth, not distance."

Please pray with us!

Please pray for our hearts and relationships in this season. We want to be humble and open, deferent to God's unexpected and unexplained work, as well as to one another.

Also, here are a few practical updates since last we wrote, each including a prayer request...

Bob and Kayla both have new jobs, which is exciting! Bob works at [Prussiani USA](#). Kayla is a waitress at [Texas Roadhouse](#), and God has dramatically increased her freelance writing opportunities.

- Pray for deeper relationships, not just in the neighborhoods, but also at work, school and in other walks of life.
- Pray for opportunities to listen, extend hospitality, serve, and share Jesus with those God has place in our lives.
- Pray for work-life balance / a rhythm of life that is balanced, for wisdom to keep guard rails in place, and for the grace to do all that we do in the name and for the glory of the Lord Jesus.

John and Dylan have both received their driver's permits, and are excited to drive anywhere they can these days.

- Please rejoice with them, and keep them (and their parents) in your prayers.

Jeff, Faith and John joined CrossFit and have been pumping iron together for several months now. They love 1) getting in shape, 2) investing in quality time together as a family, and 3) being out in the community building relationships. They also started the "Whole30" diet to eliminate foods that might be contribute to some health issues. This too has gone well. The whole Block family is healthier, has lost weight, and feels better.

- Pray for gospel opportunities and discipleship relationships would develop with folks at the gym.

Faith and Michele are involved in a women's bible study on Tuesdays that's bearing tons of fruit. Michele is currently leading the group through the *Passion Pursuit* study by Juli Slattery. Before that, they worked through *Captivating* by Stasi Eldredge. Both are wonderful studies; definitely ask the ladies about them! Faith will also be starting a study for Mosaic clients, volunteers and staff. She'll be co-leading it with another employee.

- Praise the Lord with us for the relationships they've developed and the growth these women have all seen together, and pray that the Lord would multiply the impact of these studies.
- Pray that discipleship relationships would naturally develop out of the Mosaic study.

In closing...

For all these reasons, we kneel before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth derives its name. We pray that out of His glorious riches He may strengthen all of us with power through His Spirit in our inner beings, so that Christ may dwell in our hearts through faith. And we pray that all of us, being rooted and established in love, may have power together to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge – that we may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.

Now to Him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to His power that is at work within us, to Him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! (Eph 3:14-21)

Signup for these reports at report.projectsoil.net/signup, and read more about our journey on [our team's blog](#). And visit our church's website: TheKingsTable.Church. You might be particularly interested in our new [What is Church?](#) Page.

