November and December 2020 **GERASIMOF PRAYER LETTER**



Prayer Request

Pray for favor in our community & to preach the gospel boldly.

Pray for wisdom as HIBC grows. We need wisdom as we consider what to do to create space.

Pray for the Russian village, Nikolavesk. We desire to see many in this village get saved.

Pray for HIBC discipleship class.

Pray for our aging cars.

Pray for balance between ministry and family, with an increase of new people comes an increase of ministry.

Dear Pastors, Supporting Churches and Praying Friends,

1 Corinthians 1:17-18 "For Christ sent me not to baptize, but to preach the gospel: not with wisdom of words, lest the cross of Christ should be made of none effect. For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God." In the past 6 months this has been my heart. It is only the gospel which has the power to change lives and save! There is no need for gimmicks or manipulations, Christ builds His church and Christ changes lives, praise God!

Updates/Praises: Thank you so much for your prayers. I am amazed to read our past prayer letters and see how God has faithfully answered our prayers. Thank you for taking these requests before the throne of grace. We have seen God do a great stirring in our church, and many have been excited about the things of God and are inviting friends out for service. In the past 4-6 months we have seen our weekly attendance go from 38 to around 60 people w/ a high in the low 70s. It has been a great blessing, but with that comes the problem of space as our classrooms are filling up and the auditorium holds around 80-85 comfortable.

In last letter I ask you to pray for our Russian lady who was saved recently; specifically, that her family would get saved & they would all follow the Lord in believer's baptism. Praise God we saw her daughter saved, and then we ended 2020 with 4 baptisms, 3 out of the 4 baptism were from the Russian village and the other was a teenager in our church whose family recently joined the church. It was a great way to end 2020. God has greatly blessed HIBC in 2020.

We just completed discipleship with 4 people, and this resulted in 1 baptism and 3 joining the church, praise God. Last week we began another 14-week discipleship class with 7 new people, mostly made up of new believers or people new to HIBC. One of the Russian ladies who was recently saved is in the discipleship class and is growing in the Lord. Please pray for her husband who is not saved. I would ask that you pray for the Lord to give us a great opening in this Russian village and we would see many of their family get saved. Also, I would ask that you pray specifically for this discipleship class that we would see others baptized and join the church. God has been faithful to His Word and the prayers of His saints.

Thank you again for praying for our Sunday School classes in our last letter, we had a husband and wife step up and teach a kid's class. This allowed us to split up our current SS class. This is a huge blessing as it allows us to better minister age appropriately to these kids.

Please pray for our vehicle situation as we put many miles on our cars traveling a lot to Anchorage (240 miles one way) for supplies, incoming travelers, and hospital visits. Just this past week we had 2 cars down for maintenance (blown engine and alternator). The car with the down alternator was fixed quickly, but our main car is still down due to the engine. With 5 drivers this can be a tough situation. Thanks for your continual prayers, we could not do what we do without your faithful prayers and God's continual grace in our lives.

For His Harvest,

Jake, Amanda, Emílee, Hannah, Caitlín

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