

- Family
 - This year has been a hard year after losing Josh in early 2022, but in some ways it has been a best year as the Lord has sustained them through the hard times and brought them even closer together.
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- Ministry (Folsom Bible Church)
 - Tawny is busy accumulating inventory of jewelry that she is making. Soon she will be gathering some of the church ladies to teach them about the jewelry business, partly to facilitate increased women's ministry/prayer time and partly so they can help accumulate more inventory of jewelry. The plan is, beginning in April, to acquire a couple tables at the local farmer's market in Folsom so the ladies can sell the jewelry and give away gospel information as an outreach.
 - Tony is finishing his teaching responsibilities for the current quarter at Cornerstone and then he will be taking a year off from Cornerstone so that he can devote more time and energy to outreach activities in Folsom.
 - Folsom Bible Church (FBC) has visitors periodically and a few stay. This last Sunday they had 6 visitors. They came from ministry that Tony is doing at the Union Gospel Mission. Several people who are in that program connected well with Tony and came to visit FBC.
 - The 35 core committed people are growing spiritually and building a tight sense of unity around purpose and a committed fellowship.
 - The two home groups are doing well every other Thursday evening, studying I John and prayer. There are 14 in the Folsom group and 12 in the North Sacramento group. There is unity and fruit of getting involved in each other's lives.
 - Tuesday night weekly prayer meeting is their best time together. It is currently in North Sacramento which restricts attendance some, but a home has opened up in Rancho Cordoba, so the location is alternating right now. They are keeping track of requests and God's answers so they can look back and remember what God has done.
 - The new member presentation in November was great. Twenty-five people joined the church at that time. In January, FBC had its first annual/semi-annual members meeting. People were encouraged. Tony presented the challenge to stay true to their distinctives – Intentional evangelism to plant the gospel in Folsom, following Matthew 28:19-20 (teach all that Jesus commanded), not just what they do, but more importantly, who they are. Tony described their goal as building a group identity but one with an open door to invite others in. There is a joy and energy and unity present now.
 - Max and Vayla are a joy and a gift. FBC was recently financially able to bring Max on part time. The goal is to get him full-time at some point in the future (hopefully in about 2 years).
 - Facility is a strip mall that another church rents for \$10,000/month. FBC rents several rooms from that church for about \$2700/month.
 - The Bob Kaufman conference tapes were helpful to the worship team, but a recent worship workshop in Morgan Hill put on by Manny Pereira at Trinity Bible Church was fantastic. 10 people from FBC were able to attend. The details about doing music and leading worship really helped change the way the FBC worship team is able to minister. There is tremendous growth spiritually as well as in their ability to play and to lead worship. This is one of Tony's biggest praises. There is no show, no pretense, just simple and genuine praise to God.
 - Men's ministry has 10-12 guys in this 3rd class covering the theology of sin and salvation. This class started mid-January and will finish in a few weeks. Then there will be a break until April when the fourth class will start. Attendance includes a couple men from other Slavic churches (invited in cooperation with the pastors of those churches).
 - Women's ministry is still a little sporadic, generally quarterly get togethers. The need is for a spark plug person to grow it. Tawny's jewelry making effort will help make women's activities and ministry more frequent and intentional.
 - The Equipping Class happens Thursdays opposite the home group meetings. January through February has focused on the book, The Treasure Principle (topic is giving). This class has been going great. April will be the next class which will be a survey of other religions around them – Mormons, Hindus, Jehovah Witness,

and Catholic – contrasting the teachings of these religions with what the Bible says, an apologetics approach to understanding these other religions that teaches how to bring the gospel to bear on these other religions.

- Nothing has been found in the way of different facilities. Tony has asked some realtors to help him look for something, but nothing is available in their price range. The current host church is very gracious and accommodating, but the strip mall location is a hindrance to families with small children, and the afternoon timeslot is a hindrance to the kind of longer times of fellowship, meals together, and other ministry gatherings.

- Prayer Items

- Tony and Tawny have become involved with a 501(c)3 group that does fentanyl awareness presentations at mostly high schools (generally about 2 presentations a week). Although this is not a Christian group, because Tony is there as a preacher, he is able to include the gospel in what he talks about. Pray for strength to persevere because this involvement is very emotionally taxing. There may be an opportunity for Tony to launch out independently using a fentanyl awareness program as an entrance among local junior colleges to more fully present the gospel as the eternal answer.
- Pray for availability of a better facility that would enable additional ministry avenues.
- Pray for the congregation to be creative and take initiative in outreach opportunities.
- Pray Tony and Max would be able to increase the focus of their congregation on being a people pursuing holiness, that they would see how holiness is different from legalism on one hand, and from worldliness on the other hand.
- Pray for Tony as he meets with 2 young men who have come out of a drug environment and are enthusiastically meeting and studying with Tony weekly. Pray that Tony would be useful to them.
- Pray for the strength that Tony and Tawny could remain faithful in what God puts on their plate to do, such as the fentanyl awareness presentations, the church ministries, families (sons and grandchildren), etc.
- Praise for how God has held Tony and Tawny together through the difficulties and pains of this past year. God's grace is amazing and encouraging.