

# THE STAGNER FAMILY

May - June 2023 Prayer/Update Letter

*O taste and see that the LORD is good: blessed is the man that trusteth in him.*

*Psalm 34:8*

Dear Fellow Labourers in Christ,

Overwhelmingly present within the first forty-one Psalms the theme of "trusting the Lord" dominates the pages. Trust is a quality difficult to maintain, but through continual labour, trials, events and circumstances of life it can be built upon and strengthened. As the Psalmist pens the words given by the Holy Spirit, at times he is going through great trials of afflictions whereas other times he is basking in the blessedness of God's merciful and mighty hand. Even though there are times when he seemingly questions the Lord, he will always come back to the moment of truth where his trust is placed fully and faithfully in God's grace, the Lord's protection and the Almighty's direction of every step moving forward in glorious growth.

After nearly nine years, planting and pastoring two churches it has been a heart pounding incredible blessing to watch and experience the moving of the Lord's hand. Even in days, as we look back, whereas it seemed nothing was happening, the progressive movement of the Holy Spirit appeared non-existent, we now see He was moving at the right time, performing accurate and timely little alterations in our life as well as those around us the entire time.

Truly, "...blessed is the man that trusteth in him." we are ever so reminded in the days of darkness "The LORD is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer; my God, my strength, in whom I will trust; my buckler, and the horn of my salvation, and my high tower." (*Psalm 18:2*)

*The Point Cardiff and The Point Cynon Valley*

In June we had a missions team from Fellowship Baptist Church visit for a week, labouring in both the Cardiff and Cynon Valley Campuses. We held a "family fun and youth rally" event at CBC-Cardiff, a special meeting with over thirty young people at the local primary school during our after school club and a Youth Rally on Friday evening at CBC-Cynon Valley. Praise the Lord for one soul saved, many many Bibles distributed (at people's request) and countless seeds of the Gospel planted.

On the backside of the marvellous events, we have restarted our Cynon Valley youth club on Friday nights

and started a new youth club in Cardiff during the Sunday evening church service (called The Point). Both Fridays and Sundays have been well attended, with expectations to grow. Also, thank you for the prayers of a young couple to take the ministry, Jason and Jessica Zhang have stepped up and are now running these ministries, with Kelton and Tracy, and Denise and I filling in where and when needed.

*Calvary Baptist Church of Cardiff and Cynon Valley*

Both campuses are doing well, with our people getting more engaged with reaching the lost and having a positive effect through the Gospel and local church within their sphere of influence. Recently, I preached a sermon titled "Who's Your One?" from Luke 15:1-7, to launch a campaign in both locations challenging folk to engage in the lives of those around them with the gospel and invitations to church. The title is borrowed and very effective thus far. Each member places a ping-pong ball with the initials of their "one" in a glass container. A red ping-pong ball is placed in the container when the "one" is born again and/or a bright coloured ball when they come to church. Please pray the fruit of everyone's labour is seen, encouraging everyone to have many "ones" in their life, thus having a great impact upon their sphere of influence.

*Prayer Requests*

- Souls to be saved and growth in Cardiff and Cynon Valley; Growth for The Point and churches;
- Continual financial support and prayer for each partner in the ministry.
- Special request to be sent under separate cover.

We want to thank everyone for your prayers and especially those who have remained faithful in supporting us throughout the years. Your sacrifice and heartfelt giving does not go unnoticed; without you we would not be here. It is an honour and privilege to serve on your behalf in the United Kingdom. We love you all.

Till the Shout,

*B. J. Stagner*

Brother B.J. Stagner and Family

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*Church Planting in the United Kingdom*