

A REPORT FROM LEE AND MARCIE TOSTI
GREATER PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND
JUNE 15, 2022

"I am going to be honest. I told myself I would be honest about this. I have been being honest about this. I am going to be honest about this," she said, quivering. I have permission to share this. And this is what a Christian said as she was discovering that she had unlawfully divorced her first husband and married a second husband. "We need to be pleasing to God first," he kept saying, through tears.

To keep a short story short: Two of us met with this married couple (both Christians) on a Wednesday and, by the end of the two-hour conversation, everyone had a better understanding of scripture and of their situation; the following Monday, just five days later, they initiated the civil process for ending the unlawful marriage. The pain! On top of that pain, their worldly families do not understand. And of course, there is the financial hardship. And there's also.... We sorrow. But we also rejoice! What faith! What an example. I share this so that you too will be encouraged.

"How can I be saved?" Joe H. asked me two weeks ago. Joe has come a long way! At the same time, this last Friday he said that he still doesn't concern himself very much with future life; rather, he worries about his physical situation in this life. But at the same time, he has no doubt that God is and Jesus was resurrected. But at the same time, he finds some of the Bible very difficult (if not impossible) to believe. But at the same time, he wants more and more and more of it. One step forward.... And Joe wants to get to a point where he has faith like others he sees who truly have faith. (Hopefully he'll come to have more than they!)

Last week, my father (Dale) came along to study with Joe. Dad began answering the question Joe had asked, "How can I be saved?" After an hour and a half, we hadn't answered the question as thoroughly as we would have liked, and Joe invited Dad back for more this Friday. Dad and I both think that, while Joe obviously has a lot of work to do (if God's allows this), his heart seems to be in the right place. So keep praying for Joe and for us!

Since moving to Rhode Island and working with the congregation here, because my abilities are limited, I have not been out with my sign in months. This saddens me. But the current work is bearing good fruit!

The congregation continues to march through our Old and New Testament surveys in our classes, so we are receiving regular sustenance from this. The men continue to share in preaching, providing more sustenance from this. There are home Bible studies, providing still more sustenance. There are private conversations, questions, answers, expressions of love and gratitude and support and interest. Some are moving to the area. Others are deciding to stay in the area. People are inviting their friends and neighbors to Meetup—one member's mother, who is a Catholic, came last night: "I'm just a beginner," she said. Amen! And my niece was baptized into Christ. Amen and amen! Like a colony of bees, the work is being done. Praise God for His direction and provision.

Thank you for your interest and support. Please feel free to reach out to me. For the glory of the kingdom!

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