

March/April 2025

Dear Praying Friends,

Winter in Canada can be a dark and depressing time. However, we intentionally schedule exciting and uplifting events in these months. Weeks prior to Christmas we promoted a weekend

Discipleship Class to be held in January. This gave us all something to look forward to after Christmas celebrations. With the city being so hectic and busy and our people living up to an hour away in all directions, we have found it a challenge to find a program that works to disciple our people. Because of this, we decided to begin a quarterly discipleship seminar. After a year, they will have completed the program. This was met with surprising interest and resounding success. For this first quarterly meeting we had seven people sign up and four church members come to train as Disciplers. I was incredibly encouraged after six years of seeking to disciple our people in the faith and only having one completed personal discipleship during this time. We are excited to hopefully have each of these finish all four quarters and be fully discipled.

February is the darkest month of all. Statistically, in Toronto, this is when people struggle with mental health the most and we all struggle with motivation and enthusiasm. So because of this we always have our annual **Tropical Sunday**. As you can imagine, doing this in February comes with a risk for winter weather. For the first year we were snowed in and unable to have our event on the scheduled day. However, the following week everyone excitedly came out for our first Tropical Sunday in our new building. It was an amazing day of encouragement and fellowship and we were blessed with many visitors. We spent this day giving thanks to the Lord for all He has done in our lives and in our church. There is no better way to pull yourself out of the winter doldrums!

We have only had a couple of teens coming to church, but they were expressing interest in having more activities for the teens. With some uncertainty, we began planning our first **Teen Activity**. Through the upcoming weeks to the activity, we had even more teens begin attending services. By the night of the activity, we had ten teens show up. We had a great time of fun, and by the end of the evening had been able to personally witness to three of them. It is amazing to see what God will do when you, however uncertain, step out in faith, seeking to reach others for Him.

The Lord continues to bless Sparrow in our new location. We have had ten first time visitors in the last two months, many of whom continue to come faithfully. We have also had one lady accept Christ and two are awaiting baptism.

<u>Needs</u> - Please be in prayer as we seek to raise the funds we need for Live Stream equipment and the finishing touches on our office space, \$2000. On our field it is well known that people will watch for a considerable amount of time online before visiting.

Serving in the City,

Cory MacTague

