

Martinez Family to Boulder, CO Ministry Report February-March 2024

As another month comes to a close, I'm so grateful for what the Lord is doing at Boulder Valley Baptist Church, and I'm thankful for all of you who lovingly pray for our family and ministry. I'm also thankful for those who so faithfully give to missions. These are no doubt, challenging times for many financially, and we are ever mindful of those who give sacrificially to enable missionaries like us to be fully invested in the ministry. So from the bottom of our hearts, thank you!

We have wrapped up a couple of busy months of ministry in February and March. We kicked off February with "Service Engagement Sunday" where we encouraged people to sign up to serve in specific areas of ministry, and many did sign up and are getting more involved in weekly ministry.

We also had the privilege of hosting a "Single Saints Sunday" the week before Valentine's Day and had an awesome time ministering to the group of singles God has given us. We had 5 young single men who attended and enjoyed a lunch fellowship afterward.

At the end of February, we had a teen named Royal followed the Lord in baptism and joined the church. Royal's family is originally from Nepal, and his parents are still practicing Hindus. Royal's brother was a part of our youth group in Longmont, but Royal had never really been faithful in church. But over the last year, God has been working in his life. He has been sharing the gospel with his family and his friends, and believe God may be calling him to some form of ministry. Recently Royal began playing the saxophone during our congregational singing. He also helps us set up every Sunday. It's been awesome to see him grow in his love for the Lord and his desire to serve him!

In the beginning of March, we had the opportunity to present our ministry in two churches as well as preach in a youth rally and at a couple of supporting churches in Arizona. So it was a very busy start to the month, but it was awesome to see our people step up and be able to handle the services in our absence.

However we were grateful to be back with our church family! We then became fully engaged in outreach for Easter Sunday. We had twenty-nine in attendance, including three first time visitors and a few who visited for the first time the week prior.

As you know, we have really struggled to reach young families and children since our ministry began, but one of our guests was a young mom named Marissa, who has twin daughters. Marissa grew up in church, but has been away from the Lord since she came to attend CU ten years ago. She came for the first time with her mom who was visiting from out of town. Marissa and her daughters came back Easter Sunday, and Hannah has a meeting scheduled with her for this week. So please pray for God's continued work in Marissa's life.

We have another huge answer to prayer. As I've mentioned before, About ten months ago, we began frequenting the same restaurant every Sunday after church to be a ministry of presence in the community. After ten months, God has begun to do some amazing things. Derek began opening up to us about how he went to church as a kid but hasn't gone since he was a young teen. But he feels like he needs to rediscover what he believes, and he is talking about coming to church soon.

Then, the week before Easter, another waitress I've mentioned named Mezh texted Hannah and told her she really wants her two kids to go to church and learn about God and asked if Hannah could give them a ride. So Hannah picked them up for Easter Sunday, and I cannot express what it did for our hearts to see 8 little kids running around church after praying about it for over two years with our kids.

To add to the excitement, Mezh came with her kids Sunday night and tearfully communicated the impact our family is having on their staff at the restaurant.

That afternoon at lunch, another waiter, Hector, for the first time approached me and asked where we go to church. He explained that he and his girlfriend have been talking a lot lately about needing to go to church. It's been ten years since she last went and six years since he did. But they have a son, and Dulce is really feeling like she needs to reconnect with her faith and expose their son to God. We came to find out they live just down the street from our meeting place and he is off on Thursdays, which is when we meet for midweek Bible Study. Hector and Dulce are planning to attend this Thursday.

It has been so amazing to see God break through in this way after months of prayer and building these relationships. Please pray for Derek, Hector, and Mezh and their families.

Another blessing was that Jim, who began attending last Easter chose to unite with our church in membership. It's been a great blessing to see Jim come back to the Lord over the last year and to see him serve and grow!

Please continue to pray for souls to be saved and lives to be changed by the power of the Gospel! We are trusting that as we continue to sow the seeds of the Gospel that God will empower us to bring forth much fruit for the glory of Christ, and that fruit will abound to your account for your faithful support. We love you all, and we thank God for you!

For Souls in Boulder,
Mark, Hannah, Jenna, Josiah, and Jessie Martinez