

Matt. 9:35-38 Jesus saw people like sheep without a shepherd. But Jesus called it a harvest. And told us to pray that God would raise up laborers for the harvest...

Thank you for praying. **God is opening doors faster than we can keep up.** Especially since our days of prayer and fasting. We have been praying for 20 years for some of the fruit listed below. Whenever we tell of God's works, He is honored. Whenever we humble ourselves to ask for prayer, He works mightily. Whenever I get too busy to tell or ask, I get in trouble.

WILD GAME DINNER OUTREACH, rescued story, Coopersville Ref'd +165 attended, many more than we hoped. People listened very intently. Our fears as we tried to rescue others, our need to be rescued ourselves, and God's faithfulness encouraged many. Nearly 100 people stood up to indicate their willingness to "turn their lifeboats around," to help others in need.

GOD IS STIRRING MORE PASTORS AND LEADERS to pursue Destined mentoring.

HE IS USING OTHERS WHOSE LIVES ARE BEING TRANSFORMED, and **leaders who are seeing more fruit,** to show the way. Leaders from **several churches,** including Calvary Church Pastors Jim, Tom, Josh and Joel, have shown humility in saying, "We need more clarity about discipleship here. Can you help?" **Dave French** has been a **real spokesman for discipleship,** "We can't just offer people advice on how to solve their surface needs. We must help them understand their salvation, forgiveness, identity in Christ, and the power of the Holy Spirit. When their core convictions are changed, the other areas of their lives will come under God's authority and blessing." Dave speaks from experience. **He has seen real transformation in the five people he is mentoring.** Many other people are being mentored because of his encouragement. Destined is being used as follow up for some events, people overcoming addictions, in job crises, new members and counseling. It helps **build leaders who reach and equip others** who reach others. Nine more people just started Destined last week. The **city-wide Men's Ministry Conference May 9, "Living a Legacy"** will focus on discipleship. Many leaders and seekers are invited. Last year impacted many men, including Marty and my Dad.

WED. PM SURVIVAL & ADVENTURE GROUP. More new guys...

Survival: Knowing and doing the things that lead to life, not death...

Adventure: Living life to the fullest...

Rick survived a propane explosion 6 years ago. "I've been kept alive for a reason. I don't know anything about God, but I want to find out." Rick shared his story, connected with several guys, learned how God's word has been proven trustworthy. He was beaming as he left, and said, "I'll be back!" He has invited several of his friends to join him. **Jim** and **other leaders** want to be equipped to use Survival and Adventure to help others begin the discipleship process. We are re tooling the equipping to be even more transferable. Some Dads are bringing their sons. Their **clear convictions and changed lives** will be the measure of our success.

CHIP W. recently shared part one of Survival and Adventure, "**BEING PREPARED: CLARIFYING CORE CONVICTIONS**" with 20 men from Blythefield Church. **Four of them committed** to mentoring with Chip. One of them, **CALEB,** is a friend of **Kurt Jr.** He called Kurt and invited him to meet with them and Chip. How wonderful to see a good friend minister to Caleb who ministers to our son Kurt. Many others are beginning the Destined process in other places. More want to start than I can meet with.

SURPRISING SUPPORT: Each month **God surprises us with "extra" support,** often from unlikely places.

Marty called last week, "Rob and I prayed for you, that others would relieve you of the burden of raising support so you could minister to more people. Just this morning God began to answer that prayer. A guy who is going through Destined with me wrote a check for \$1,000 for your ministry. He sees such a difference in my life, other lives, and his own, that **he wanted to personally invest in helping others.**" Marty sees **God at work.** "Anything good in my business or ministry is just **God fulfilling His promises.** As I take steps of faith to disciple 6 other guys, **God is multiplying my time and business.**"

This "extra" support often comes the same week someone tells us that they can no longer support us, though still believe in our ministry. Several times when we prayed about a special need, someone sent help "out of the blue."

WE APPRECIATE YOU. Your prayer and support mean more now than ever. People are more open now than they have been in years. Kurt & Ginger

PRAYER REQUESTS: Please pray for the above, and:

- 4/14, Partnering with Craig D to begin ministering at **Kent County Jail.**
- 4/29 **Kelly** will be **speaking** to Teen M.O.P.S. (Mothers Of Preschool Children)
- 5/8 **Ginger speaking,** Mother Daughter Dinner, Stanton MI.
- 5/9 **Men's Ministry Conf.,** "Living a Legacy", Calvary Church, 956 9377
- 5/10 **Kelly's Birthday, Healing;** gall bladder attacks, **Wisdom;** single Mom.
- 5/15-19 **Discipleship Retreat,** Fishing Adventure, Pentwater.
- More **powerful partnering** with churches and other groups.
- **Upgrading** our local advisory board and **accountability processes.**
- **Kurt, Carrie, re building** house, **wisdom** for preparing for missions, new jobs.
- **Continuing growth** in our own **family,** relationships, health. **Ginger** has had some deeper health challenges.
- **Continued** progress in **healing** and **wisdom** for Kurt and Ginger. The extra surge of ministry required some recovery for Kurt.
- **More effective tools, training;** equipping people to pray, care and share effectively with people facing financial, family issues.



Smores with Rosa and David



Reenacting the rescue



Carrie, Kurt C



Kelly, David, Rosa