

A cross. The world.

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Pastor and praying friends,

Hopefully you all are managing to stay warm this winter, but for us, it is the middle of summer. We could use some cool weather and rain. Our area is entering "Level 6b" water restrictions, which means we are only allowed to use thirteen gallons of water a day. The officials are projecting "Day Zero" for some time in mid-April, but in all likelihood the region will run out of water sooner than that. The government is already setting up water distribution points where citizens will collect six gallons of water each day. Pray for peace during this trying time because sometimes unrest can arise during water shortages. The rainy season starts in April most years, so it is possible that the reservoirs may be replenished in time.

With water "Day Zero" looming on the horizon, my thoughts turn towards eternal "Day Zero" for the souls that have never accepted Christ as Savior. Since Christmas, my preaching and teaching have focused on mobilizing our small church for outreach and soul winning. We are teaching evangelism in our adult Sunday school classes with the goal of establishing regular soul winning activities in our community, but also to equip the members to present their friends and family with the Gospel clearly and effectively.

This month our church decided to help a dear church member named Rusia. Last summer her house burned down and she has been living in emergency shelter for most of the time since. In November she moved to a more formal plot, where she will be for a few years. Her house is two hundred square feet, divided into two rooms, with no plumbing, restroom, electricity, kitchen, and mud for a floor. She has a sister who lives with her and they each have one child, making the mud floor most untenable with even a hint of rain. She has been a faithful member of the church for quite a while, so her church family decided to install a concrete floor to show them the love of Christ. The neighbors couldn't believe that nobody was getting paid to do the work, which gave us the opportunity to tell them why we were helping her family. It truly was a Matthew 5:16 moment. May God get all the glory for the work that gets done here, and may others see the works and want to know more about Him. To us, outreach should be about souls first, but helping the widows and the fatherless is just another avenue to bring people to Christ.

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Your missionaries,
Jeff and Alyssa Clifford



So being affectionately desirous of you, we were willing to have imparted unto you, not the gospel of God only, but also our own souls, because ye were dear unto us.

I Thessalonians 2:8

