

We Are In This Together



“The Church is God’s Plan A, and there is no Plan B.” Dr. Larry Crabb

Simply blown away. I was recently stunned and encouraged by a phone call from a local church leader. She humbly yet enthusiastically informed us of an unanticipated large, financial gift from their church to help move our ministry roof renovation project forward! Over the last few years this church has become a valued ministry partner with us. Nonetheless, her words were unexpected and their actions were gracious. She called to inform us the pastor and elders wanted to encourage the ministry at Genesis for the good work in our community and with them. She said “There are many distractions that occur in ministry, and we wanted to be a help to you all. I just played your recording you just sent on my phone expressing your gratefulness to our church in our staff meeting today. Our staff was all smiles! God will provide for you. We are in this together.” Her phone call helped me glimpse anew God’s good story he continues to tell in the ministries of Genesis.

We are in this together. What a place of deep comfort to know God connects us with him and each other as a spiritual family. God does not leave us to go it alone in a lonely and troubled world. Despite the many flaws in the body of Christ this world loves to parade, we do believe God’s eternal plan is to redeem this lost world through the ongoing work of the church. He is passionate to transform each human being into a radical “new creation” (II Corinthians 5:17). Dr. Dallas Willard, comments on this power in this new creation: “The ‘old stuff’ no longer matters. It is the new that counts. Here in this new creation is the radical goodness that alone can thoroughly renovate the heart.”

“When the body of Christ works well, there is something glorious for us to behold.”

As the body of Christ, God has chosen to work through fallible, imperfect, weak believers to convey this life giving message of hope: “God chose the weak things of this world to shame the wise. He chose the lowly things of this world...so that no one would boast before Him (I Cor. 1:27-28).” The Lord has chosen to work through me and you as these radical new creations. He has chosen us as the strong weak people to advance his kingdom in this broken world.

When the body of Christ works well, there is something glorious for us to behold. I have again been a witness to that beautiful story today as I write these words. Other individuals and families have contributed to help us make significant progress in just the few weeks after we mailed our ministry letter outlining our need. A growing number have given sacrificially to help with this project. We are closing in on our goal, and we will get there soon as God’s people respond. I believe Dr. Crabb’s powerful declaration about the church of Christ still rings true. He writes “The church is God’s plan A and there is no other plan B”. These encouraging words not only help us in times of discouragement and distraction to remember that God will provide, but also inspire us to act, because “We are in this together.”

Special Giving Praise: Speaking of gracious action in God’s work together, a couple has recently made available a matching gift of \$5,000! So anyone contributing to complete our roof project will greatly enhance the giving and help us more quickly reach our final goal to have the new roof paid for in full. Simply amazing.

Warmly in Christ,

Dave

Executive Director