Prayer Letter – September '20 Darin and Allison Maurer

## God's Word at work in saved and unsaved men!

Studying Scripture has helped men recently as they've met with Darin to learn how the truths of God's Word get into our lives. Psalm 119:11 says, "I have stored up your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you." It takes time to study the Bible, but in order to store the Word within us, we need to process passages ourselves instead of only hearing what others learn through great sermons or devotions on podcasts. Men have learned lately how the Inductive Bible Study method helps us with: OBSERVATION, INTERPRETATION and APPLICATION (try this yourselves at <a href="https://www.navigators.org/resource/inductive-bible-study">https://www.navigators.org/resource/inductive-bible-study</a>). Some have done notetaking using this great tool below!

https://www.amazon.com/ESV-Scripture-Journal-New-Testament/dp/1433562448 "Take extended notes alongside passages of Scripture, with lined blank pages interspersed throughout the complete New Testament text."

One man named **Matt** has even started training other men how to study biblical passages and books as a whole (understanding how to sit alone with God's Spirit guiding you to know what a writer like Paul meant by the words God wrote through him). Matt's training has impacted so many others that he plans to make a video for anyone to use alone or in a group. As an example of the Bible's impact: when a Christian individually reads Philippians several times and then studies the smaller paragraphs, that saved person begins to see how suffering for the salvation of lost people brings incredible joy. Every chapter in the book covers suffering and calls us to rejoice.

When we personally study and memorize at times significant portions of the Bible, the presence of Jesus Christ with His purpose penetrates our life situations (John 15:7). We experience Him through His Word at work in us.

Apart from discipleship, Darin's time with unsaved tennis players lately has shown the Bible's power. Pandemic conditions have led to spontaneous court times, which have caused immediate Gospel presentations after tough matches that bond everyone together. Meeting later at a restaurant to *go over what the Bible says about how to know God* has proved effective, too. One man recently sat with Darin over a long lunch hearing Scripture calling him to believe in Jesus Christ, and even though he declined Darin's offer for him to receive Christ right there, this new friend later texted his own passage from the Old Testament to ask for help. God working on his heart!

Three new Muslim friends have started inviting Darin to hit balls with them, and one has said twice that he sees Jesus in D. Hopefully, this means he'll believe in the LORD Jesus Christ for salvation, the way he's now heard he can have forgiveness through believing that Christ's death saves him. **Please pray for R and L** (God knows their names!) and keep using God's Word to see Him work in saved and unsaved men!!! Emotional to write this!!

During the year everyone receiving this gets prayed for still by name at least once for each letter, so please request prayers about anything going on or others you know with needs whenever you'd like to have something special offered.

## **Board Members**

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