

May 30, 2023

Hello Family and Friends,

It has been a while since our last newsletter, but there is much that has happened since then. On March 24, an EF-4 tornado tore through the small town of Rolling Fork, MS and as many as twenty-five lives were taken. Brent heard of an opportunity to travel to Mississippi to assist with disaster relief and on March 27, he left Bastrop with a brother in the Lord, in a borrowed truck, pulling a tractor and trailer. When they arrived in Mississippi, they were united with Grindstone Ministries. This group of strong believers assist in times of disasters to cut down trees, cover damaged roofs with tarps, using dozers, back hoes, tractors, and trailers to clear debris from affected properties. They do all this free of charge to the survivors. They were already posted up in a National Armory base and Brent got to serve with many of the mighty men and women of God associated with this ministry. To learn more about this ministry go to Grindstoneministries.com.

His first deployment took him to a home that was hit by the tornado. At this point, nothing but a pink claw tub undestroyed remained sitting on the middle of the slab. Come to find out, a mother had laid over her two children in that bathtub and they all survived as the house was being destroyed around them. The mission that day was to help remove trees and debris from the next-door neighbor's house which was still standing by the grace of God. Brent met Sharion, the owner of the home and as he spoke to her and debriefed her about the event, he asked her what stood out to her the most about that day and she said, "the sound, Oh child, that sound." Brent got to hold her and pray for her as she finally "let go" of days of grief that she held back. As Brent reflected on this incident, he wrote, "we know Jesus Christ



"For you are my hiding place, you protect me from trouble. You surround me with songs of victory." Psalm 32:7

truly works through us, and it was very real in that time with this precious soul." The next day Brent was able to help with the resource center and found himself directing traffic – miles of vehicles lined up to receive water and supplies to help the community survive the coming days without food and electricity. It was a God ordained set up, with his Chaplain cap and his willingness to debrief each car filled with survivors, the Holy Spirit poured out His love through the heart of Brent and used his mouth to speak hope into these people's lives. He helped many turn their eyes back to Jesus – their true Savior. Brent said by the end of the day his voice was spent, but it was all so worth it. To God be the glory!



"In the same way, there is joy in the presence of God's angels when one sinner repents." Luke 15:10

On April 4th, Celebration Community Church along with The Gathering in Bastrop, Texas, held a Revival under a big top tent that ran each night until Easter Sunday where a sunrise service was held on April 9th. The Bastrop Prayer and Healing Rooms had a tent available for individuals and each night there were prayers for healing and deliverance. And every night after each service, there were baptisms, Hallelujah! It truly was an amazing event! The children's ministry was available at the nearby Hampton Inn's ballroom for parents wanting to attend the event. Brent volunteered to help with the parking, and I was able to serve with the Bastrop Prayer and Healing Rooms and the children's ministry. We were amazed to see miracles before our eyes. One was our friend Edie; she had been fighting arthritis in her fingers for years. She showed us how the Lord had healed her by shaking our hands and clasping her hands together. Things she could not do without

pain before. Praise the Lord! Another was a woman who told me she was fighting a bladder infection. She went to the altar for prayer of healing and when she left the church, she knew she was healed. Her symptoms vanished. Amen! God was on the move then and we believe He is still working now! He never stops working!

We are so blessed to have a wonderful God working on our behalf. Do you have any doubts? Do you have concerns? Do you need prayer? Will you let us pray for you? Please call, text, or reply to our email. You are especially important to us, and we want to help. We are here for you and your family too.

Our prayer request for now is that Brent will return home safely from his 7 weeks job as a trucker, driving an 18-wheeler in Durant, Oklahoma. He has been able to contact a few of you by phone and has really enjoyed the conversations. But also, while he has been away, Brent has ministered to individuals who have called him with deep, major concerns in their lives. It is amazing when the Holy Spirit leads, and Brent is able to speak the truth that is much needed at the time. One beautiful victory, a child in the mother's womb has been spared. Thank you, Jesus!

We will be praying for you and your family! We hope you all had a safe and enjoyable Memorial Weekend! Remember whose you are..... Then Jesus spoke to them again, saying, "I am the light of the world. He who follows Me, shall not walk in the darkness, but have the light of life." John 8:12 (NKJV)

In Faith, Hope & Love,

Brent & Laura Jones

Shepherd Ministries of Central Texas P.O. Box 364 Bastrop, TX 78602

PH: 512-784-5585 Email: Jones@centraltx.org