



The Sharing Organization

PO Box 73

Armada, MI 48005

586-305-5167

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Ministry Moment...

It's a model of a classic deep apple-red 1957 Chevy Bel Air. If you Google one, you will see that it is a beautiful car but this one is a model and it appears to have seen better days.

This model leans to the passenger side because it's missing a front wheel--the driver's side front wheel is broken off but it leans in its place to remind us that the wheel is supposed to go there. The model is missing its hood, like Mater, with its radiator prominently exposed and looking out of place. The trunk is in the open position pointing straight up like a wolf that sorrowfully howls in the dark night. The rims that are there remind us that this car was something important in the day of its prime, but today the rims are only a reflection of the past, and there is a layer of dust on the model that only an archeologist might be able to decipher, but to us laypeople it speaks of a long-forgotten day that has long been forgotten about. (*To see a picture visit the TSO website or <https://bit.ly/2GxaVhO>*)

Rich was a man who lived in one of the AFC homes. He was there because he hurt himself with alcohol and now was required by the courts to live in a group home for supervision. He was faithful to come to our weekly services, and we got to know each other pretty well. One day Rich handed me this model of the Bel Air, and as I quietly wondered why he was giving me this broken toy, he told me that he had nothing more to give and he wanted me to have it as a way of showing his appreciation. I accepted it, thanked him, and went home and put it on a shelf.

As I look at that model today I am reminded of the people like Rich whom we serve. I'm reminded that God has not forgotten them, even if they've "seen better days," and I am pleased that we have been called to go to Rich and tell him so. I am not sure where Rich is today, but I pray that wherever he is, he knows that Jesus has not just placed him on a shelf.

~John

Prayer Letter...

Dear Prayer Partner,

Earlier this month I was able to go to Chicago for our association's annual elders meeting. It was a very blessed time, and thank you for praying for me in my travels and for Megan as she maintained the house and the children's activities. All was well!

I continue to send local pastors personal hand-written letters to introduce them to this ministry. I've had one phone call as a result and was able to send that minister one of our books. I'm praying for one-on-one sit-down lunches where we can talk, but all that in good time. Please continue to pray, and if your pastor is not aware of what we do, please tell them and ask me to send them a book (*gratis*).

As some of you may have heard, I've hurt my neck from my 3-year-old falling on the side of my head/neck while I was lying on the floor. I'm not in any pain and can move just as well as I ever did before, but the lining between my sinuses and brain has been broken and cerebral-spinal fluid leaks out my nose when I turn face down. The fear is that an infection can cross into the brain from my sinuses and cause meningitis which is never good. So, I am currently on lifting restrictions and praying this heals up quickly. The CT scan shows that there was no "sinus fracture," so it's just a torn seam in the membrane around the brain, which beats a fractured skull, I think! Anyway, please pray that I heal up quickly.

I have begun a Facebook campaign to raise the funds for this year's Shoebox program. Our goal this year is to raise \$3000 and to do 57 boxes. Please visit our website to see the promotional video for the campaign and to donate. And as always, please pray with us as we ramp up for this year's events.

I have begun getting things together for the new Pedestrian Kits campaign. We have a bunch of reflective vests, and I am working on brochures and getting together a sample kit to show off. The program is taking a little more time to put together than I had hoped. I apparently heaped too much stuff on my plate this year, and the process is not moving along as swiftly as I had first hoped. Please pray that I will be at peace with the process of putting this program together and trust that God will accomplish the timing.

And finally, we are again hosting a **Meet & Greet & Eat** on June 2nd from 1 to 5 p.m. at Haven Place, 58575 Main Street, New Haven, MI 48048. The doors will open at 1 p.m. with the program starting at 1:30 p.m. Please join us and bring friends who you think would appreciate our work. Contact me via phone or e-mail by May 1st to RSVP with how many people will be joining you.

Thank you for praying with us and for the many ways that you support us and this work. I pray for your blessing as we together serve a God who takes care of his servants.

In Him,



John R. Rock