



The
Sharing
Org

The Sharing Organization

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JULY 2018

Ministry Moment...

As I drove away I noticed that he was eerily standing just inside the door like one of those scary characters in the movies. He saw that I noticed him and he raised his hand towards me as I continued down the driveway out to the road. He's been with me for years in services, but he has only just taken to making sure he waves goodbye as I leave. It sort of took me unawares as it seemed kinda spooky to me, but now I have come to expect and anticipate his watching me leave. It's his way of showing me appreciation for coming each week and visiting with him.

More years ago than I can remember he told me that there was a secret elevator by the side of the road that took people directly to the pearly gates. I listened to him at the time and he seemed to get testy with me because he could tell I wasn't buying it. Also during that time he shared with me that his wife no longer came to visit him and neither would his son. For some reason the news about his wife and son made me feel sorrow, but I still didn't drive down the road looking for the elevator.

Through the years I have seen him slip in and out of reality (mostly out of it), but he always knows me on sight and stops whatever he is doing to come sit next to me in the gathering area while I am there. In all that time, I have never seen an elevator by the road nor have I seen anyone visit him.

I think it's sad that nobody comes to visit him, however I am glad that I am blessed and able to.

~John

Prayer Letter...

Dear Prayer Partner,

Wow, once again I have seen the blessing of God's people praying. Last month I asked specifically that you would pray for my work situation. As soon as the request had gone out, my original two scheduled preaching engagements doubled to four as they needed me four times in June instead of just two. I was also emailed and asked to fill the pulpit at another church, but I was already scheduled so I had to turn down that job. Then a couple weeks later I was called (out of the blue) by the largest care facility in New Baltimore to see if I was available to fill the pulpit for their normal chaplain who was on vacation in July. And oh, the pulpit I had to turn down rescheduled with me for August. So what was originally two appointments for work turned quickly into seven, and I have had an opportunity to serve a couple of funerals as well. Thank you for praying, and as always, God has provided splendidly.

My health remains as it generally is. I gimp a lot, and the idea of exercise seriously tires me out just to consider it. Please continue to pray for me, that I would be able to have health enough to continue to minister as I am.

For the past couple months Megan and I have been seeing a therapist with one of our children who has had some coping issues. It's been a good experience, and I believe that it has been an activity necessary for each of us as it forced us to discuss topics and formulate plans for moving forward. Another of our children is struggling with separation anxiety in recent months as well. We know the cause and are working to address the subsequent fears and emotions. Please keep us in prayer as each of us heals and grows in a way that honors God as well as each other.

A couple of months ago I told you about a man named Barry who expressed interest in our work. Last month he was able to begin a bi-weekly men's group in one of the nursing homes. This is a great opportunity for him to build relationships and share the love of Jesus with these men. Please remember to pray for his ministry as well.

Finally, July is here, and that means that 2018 is half over. As I look back I am once again made aware of how grateful I am for your constant prayers and continued support. The words "thank you" don't seem to carry the weight of my gratitude, but I really have nothing more that can communicate my feelings.

May you know the intimate richness of His blessings,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John R. Rock". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

John R. Rock