

Faithful Men Missions

Dedicated to Teaching the Truth of God

II Timothy 2:2



James & Kathryn Lawrence

Dear Pastor and Praying Friends

The Lord has taught us many things in Utah. We learned to depend on him as our sole resource, the ministry is defined by the doors he opened and the opportunities he provides. There are few worries when we depend on God and understand that everything is in his hand. This dependence on God is in part the result of being here alone. We would not and did not choose that, but God has used it to develop our dependence on him. God has allowed me to handle the word of God with greater ease and confidence. Prepared, God ordains opportunities to share the Biblical gospel message in a manner that is tailored to the LDS. God has matured us providing an understanding and acceptance of our role here. We know that God is at work in us and we have a peace about the job that he has for us to do. We further recognize that this process was made possible by your investment in us and we thank God for you. We know that your commitment to us has been at a cost to you and our growth and diligence in the ministry need to reflect that commitment. We are mutually interested in the best use of our God given time and talents.

Faithful Men Baptist Church was chartered and covenanted in January of 2015, It is a house church in Washington Utah. The benefits of the local church are as much ours in a congregation of two as they are in that of many: Although, we miss fellowship with other Christians. Our days are divided between ministry related activities and part time jobs in the Washington County School District which give us contact with the community. Messages are developed for church services and outreach to the LDS. We generally pursue a rapport with those LDS that God brings us into contact with, culminating in a presentation of the Biblical Gospel, worked into a contrast with the LDS gospel.

Since arriving in Utah we have been renting first one and now another house in a home owners association in Washington Utah. This is not an ideal situation since we are unable to advertise the address or put out a sign. The second house is the future home of our land lord and we rent rooms more than a house. The lack of progress in this area has in part been the result of our home in Pennsylvania not selling. The current rental arrangement will come to an end around August 2017. We have been actively looking for a suitable location that fits our current budget.

Faithful Men Ministry has an unchanging burden to win the lost including but not exclusive to the Mormons. Our calling, burden and ministry are not changing, but our location is. Our labor in Utah has required painstaking and is arduous facing many deniers. "For a great door and effectual is opened unto me, and there are many adversaries" I Cor. 16: 9. Efforts in Utah have met with many adversaries (deniers) while a great door of opportunity is open in other areas. Jesus sent out the seventy to preach the Kingdom of God (repentance and faith in the King who has come). Their stay was not indefinite in the locations where they ministered. God provided the receiver an opportunity to hear the truth but not an indefinite opportunity Lk 10: 1-16. Our short-term goal is to do the work of an evangelist and see lost souls saved. The long-term goal is to see an expanded presence of the New Testament church in Southwest Utah as well as anywhere that its presence is absent.

Paul went where the Spirit bid him Acts 16: 6-10 and while we do not look for visions we still want to discern the Lords will. Kathryn and I see this as choosing between two good things. Paul had a desire to be with the Lord and a desire to

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further the work of the local assembly Phil. 1: 23-25; I Thess. 3: 5. We have a desire to continue the ministry God has provided here in Southwest Utah and we have a desire to minister where there is an open door. Our constant prayer is for direction in this area. So, we face a cross roads. Kathryn and I have been praying continually about this decision. We know that Paul started churches in many places where he preached, but not in every place. He stayed for weeks in some cases and years in other cases, then, subsequently moved to another location. Some churches received a second visit at a later date (Acts 20: 1-2). We have begun in Utah and we understand that the work is needed in many places in post-Christian America.

Thank you for your support of this ministry, your prayers and financial support has allowed the work to continue. Your faithful and generous gifts mean that we are able to provide a biblical gospel message to those who might not otherwise hear one. We understand that some seed falls by the way side, some on stony ground, some among thorns and some on good ground. Regardless, our job is to sow the word of God in men's hearts Matt 13: 19-23; Lk 8: 11-15. That is what you are supporting, that is what we are grateful for. Never-the-less, Faithful Men Ministry asked for your support with the express purpose of providing a Biblical presence to the Mormon-Dominated Southwest Utah area. While our calling, burden and ministry are not changing, our location is changing and therefore we are not comfortable asking for your continued financial support. If you will permit, we will continue to send prayer letter updates. We continue to desire your prayers for us. Please make arrangements to discontinue financial support as of June 2017 (if applicable).

The Lord willing, we will conclude Faithful Men Ministry here in Utah by June 2017 and then begin our transition to a different location. We will be returning to the Northeastern part of the country. Ideally, we would have preferred to have had our ministry plans solidified before moving but changing circumstances and negotiations dictated otherwise Prov. 16: 9. Regardless, the summer school break is the best time for us to relocate and therefore the June moving date. Currently Faithful Men Baptist Church is comprised of my wife and I, so when we move it moves. Our first stop will be Morgantown, WV. where we have a place to stay with a family member and is a potential place of ministry. We intend to solidify plans over the next few months and will share them in our next letter. If you have any questions, feel free to contact us (814-323-0873). "Brethren Pray for us" I Thess. 5: 25 II Thess. 3: 1,2.

Fellow Laborers

James and Kathryn Lawrence

PS The hard copy was mailed in mid-April 2017