

Monthly Report, December 2010  
Involving the Seminole church of Christ  
by Frederic Gray

Dear Brethren,

New Beginnings. As we enter a new year, people all over the world are engaging in reflection on the past year, as well as prayers and dreams for the upcoming one. As I reflect on the past year, I give glory and gratitude to God for using you to support my work as an evangelist.

I would not have made it this past year financially without you. And for that, I thank you from the bottom of my heart. I thank you for your sensitivity to God's word. I thank you for caring about saving the lost. I thank you for your generosity. May God richly bless you.

I also thank you for your prayers. This past year was a tough year for both me, and my family, in a variety of ways. My capacity for managing stress is very high, yet this past year I found myself taxed in ways that were humbling. I learned a lot in the process of being humbled, and grew in the process. Some of you were a part of helping to facilitate that growth. Thank you, thank you, thank you.

I pray for you also. I prayerfully hope that this next year brings repentance in your congregations like never before. May those who have hardened their hearts be motivated by God's kindness to repent, and may those who are lost repent and come to the Lord in record numbers.

Let's pray for it. Let's work towards it. That's why the world is still turning. What if God is working a gospel explosion the likes of which the world has never seen? If so, I hope we all are honored in some way to help 'plant' and 'water' through the increase God will provide.

With spiritual enthusiasm,

Frederic Gray

**Evangelism**

In December, the elders decided to focus on going after all the people the congregation has converted and that have fallen away. We have already seen a response in those efforts.

We also started a Foundations class that will start in January. This is for our new converts, and some other members who want/need some foundational grounding. We are working like crazy not to lose any of those that God has given us (John 6:38-39).

You may recall the baptism of Courtney Wong. She has had a struggle because she lives so far away, and she wants to be at Seminole. Our schedules had trouble meshing for a Bible study following up her baptism a couple of months ago, but we will be able to study every Friday beginning in January. Two of her Christian friends will join us in that study.

You may recall from previous studies my studies with Doris and Sandra. They both have had serious medical challenges where they have been hospitalized, and sometimes been medicated to the point of being “asleep” for days. The reason I mention them both in the same breath is because they both have told me similar things about wanting to get baptized. Lord willing, January’s report will have some good news!

### **Edification**

The congregation has been really excited about the mission to go reach out to those who are in what I call “spiritual limbo”—not connected to God or any group of baptized believers. It has been fun to see people get creative in reaffirming their love to people in a James 5:19-20 kind of way.

### **Personal**

December brought more healing to my wife. Her condition with her kidneys made major progress. I have seen a life and sparkle in her eyes that I have not seen in a long time...well over a year. It has been so refreshing to find out that the menagerie of physical challenges and exhaustion she has experienced over the last year or two are directly related to her recent kidney challenges. She is doing better than ever. Again, thank you for your prayers.

If you are ever in Tampa, please let me know. We would love to see those of you that we know personally, and meet for the first time those of you that we don’t know.