



# PATHFINDER



*Shining the Light in the Darkness 6/16*



*Dear friends,*

Thank you for everyone that is praying for us. Some days you wake up and things look great, and other days you just wonder, "Am I on the right path, God?"

We were discipling a young man a few months ago. He was doing well and going to get baptized. The Sunday he was to be baptized he came to church but in the end he backed out. Slowly he started pulling himself away from us and within weeks he was in jail, again. He was arrested for DUI and got 6 months for it. At first I was upset because I thought here we go again, someone starts drawing close to God and bam, it falls apart. Let's be honest, it is hard enough to get people to accept Jesus and live for Him. Well, the first might be easy, since people may openly respond to the Gospel of the Kingdom, but then many of them stop right there; they accept Christ's sacrifice but do not change their lifestyle to match what God has done in their heart.

Anyway, thinking about this young man the Lord brought to my understanding that while almost every day I see many drunks, not all of them go to jail for DUIs. So why was this one arrested when any cop here could pick up any number of individuals for the same crime? Truly it was God's Grace that arrested this young man after he ran away from God. I was encouraged that God pursues those who are truly His.

To make a long story short, since returning to jail our young friend has been attending church services and bible studies three times a week. He has even defended the bible to other inmates and openly said that he is friends with Christians when other inmates were teasing him for his confession. I continue to pray that God will use him in a mighty way and God's hand will be on his life.

Interestingly another friend of his has begun to come to church as well. This young man is only 22 but after 45 days straight of drinking vodka he ended up in the hospital and was warned by doctors to quit drinking! It is sad to see someone so young hurt himself in such a way that his body is like that of a 40 or 50 year old man. Pray for this young man that his conversion that although sparked by fear of dying young will transform into a relationship of love for Jesus Christ and his selfless sacrifice for him.

Another exciting venture has come out of our monthly prayer meetings. A wonderful Lakota family from Kyle has been coming to the Rec on Friday nights. They also work with Native youth over there, and over the last couple of years have attended a conference called Warrior Leadership Summit. This year, fifty-one teens and young adults have signed up (from across the reservation), many of them from Oglala. We are praying this trip will be a life changing week for them; may everyone encounter the living God in such a way that not only will they be convinced of who He is but they will be transformed forever and the things of this world would dim in comparison to Jesus!



*Please pray ...*

... and thank God for touching lives of young men and women, sometimes in ways we did not expect! 😊  
... and thank God for the ministry opportunities we have had over the summer and the friendships He helps us build  
... for disciples to stay faithful and bold in their commitment to Christ, even in the face of peer pressure or in jail  
...for the upcoming Leadership Summit Camp (end of June) for God to impact the youth's lives in a mighty way  
...for continued opportunity to shine God's Light in Oglala and on Pine Ridge rez until His Glory comes!

*FINAL THOUGHT*

Only one thing will change our reservation: We need an outpouring of the Holy Spirit like on the day of Pentecost or as witnessed throughout history in many great revivals and awakenings. We have nothing to offer except a heart that will cry out until He answers. Please seek God with us for our reservation and reservations from South America all the way to Alaska, that Jesus' kingdom will be established here and now in the hearts of Native men and women!!!