



“OWEN”

OCT - NOV 2024



Recently, Hali and I have had a trial unlike anything we have ever faced. It became so difficult at points that we regularly said to one another, “you want to just quit?” But, God saw us through.

The trouble came when a former member that we had to put on church discipline and removed from the church decided that he was going to do everything in his power to try to destroy our family and our church. He harassed us, he harassed our church, he spread slander and libel to try to hurt our reputation. He sent out hundreds of emails and facebook messages claiming that I was protecting pedophiles in our church for financial gain. He made claims that one of our sons was going to grow up and shoot up a school. He reached out to first time visitors to our church warning them not to come. He called the cops on us. He subscription bombed us by using my email, phone number, and address to sign me up for all kinds of things, some very inappropriate. He even sent random people to our door. For the first time in our marriage we were actually afraid for our families safety.

This harassment went on for a solid two months. We did not respond to him or make any public statements about his public claims because they were so completely false and unfounded. His goal was simply to spread enough lies and harass us enough to destroy us. Finally, we had no choice but to file a restraining order against this individual. We went to the court hearing at the end of October, the judge, after reviewing the evidence, granted a two year no contact order that hopefully will finally bring us and our church peace.

The Devil was doing his level best to destroy us. And yet, in the midst of this turmoil, God was working, and God was showing us...though the Devil may fight, God will always win.

OWEN

-In the midst of hardship God knows exactly what you need. Owen is a recent high school graduate from a school where I work as a substitute. He has felt God calling him into the ministry so instead of going off to college right away he has come to intern at Branches Baptist Church for the next year. He has been a HUGE help to our church and to me personally. He is taking on the new challenges that I have given him and it has brought so much joy being able to train a young man for ministry.

Recently, I tasked him with an outreach that we do in our community where we hand out candy on a road that is closed down during halloween. He did great and our people were able to give out around 500 invites to church that had a gospel tract on them as well. Owen took the helm of the whole outreach and God blessed it.

Just like God gave Elisha to Elijah after his darkest days, God has given me Owen to serve with and it has been a true joy. We can't wait to see how God continues to use him for ministry.



Jake & Owen

Like I said before, the Devil can try his best...but in the end God will always win!

Thank you all for your continued prayers and support. We could not do the Lord's work here in San Francisco without you all.



<-- Scan for Update Video or search “Jake Woodfin” on YouTube.



Church members serving at Outreach Event