

## Pour Out Your Life - February 23, 2022

Last Sunday our church enjoyed worship, encouragement, and met two brothers in the Lord, Jason Goldsberry and Doug Dodge. Their messages were different but shared a similar thread that resonated with me. Maybe you felt the same way. If you were unable to attend the service, I highly recommend that you set some time aside to listen to it in its entirety.

Jason Goldsberry filled us in on the upcoming mission he and his wife Lindsey will be embarking on. The new work the Lord is opening for them will be with the college-aged youth in San Diego, Chile. As he shared the scriptures of what ministers do, he reminded us that God works in new ways to reach people.

Isaiah 43:19 (Voice)

Watch *closely*: I am preparing something new; it's happening now, *even as I speak*, and you're about to see it. I am preparing a way through the desert; Waters will flow where there had been none.

Yet our Almighty God is unchanging.

Malachi 3:6 (Amp)

"For I am the Lord, I do not change [but remain faithful to My covenant with you]; that is why you, O sons of Jacob, have not come to an end.

Today's young people in general are seekers of truth and justice. They long to see those who are persecuted find equity, the misunderstood find a voice in society, and the poor to have help to rise up from their circumstances. The solutions that they believe in, while noble, are hollow and filled with partial truths that lead to deception due to their being built and powered by human understanding. Deep down, generations X and Y are longing for truth without having to give up the communities that they have built around themselves or their ideology. Dear family, this mission field is not only in Chile. The experiences of today's young adults are leaving them empty, bitter, questioning everything, and wondering why they are here on this earth.

We have the answer, the good news!

But sharing the hope of Jesus will come not from a crusade or a megaphone pointed at protesters. It will come from being sensitive to the Holy Spirit and being available for Him to use us, connecting and building relationships. This work will look different for each of us. Some of us need to become intercessors, some of us need to share our resources with those who minister on the front line, some of us need to open our homes, some of us need to meet on a basketball

court, some of us need to listen to co-workers and wait for them to ask us for prayer or how we manage to live with hope in these troubling times.

The bottom line is that to reach this generation will require us to become more Christlike, filled with the light of His love. We must shake off religious self-righteousness and open up our lives to include these youth.

How amazing that both Jason and Lindsey met Jesus on college campuses. Many young people in their late teens and early twenties either have no notion of the gospel or have left the church for whatever reason. The picture of Jason sitting on his couch, surrounded by the young men that he was able to father in the faith-filled our hearts with joy! The testimony of our pastoral candidate, Doug Dodge, was a perfect example of how being open to pouring God's love and Word into the lives of those around us produces fruit that remains.

So, this leaves us with some thoughts and questions for us to offer to God in our quiet time:

- Who are we pouring our lives into?
- What are we pouring? God's love and hope?
- What are we doing in service for Jesus for the broken?
- Are we bearing good fruit that lasts?
- Are we willing to be fathers and mothers in the faith (a life-long commitment)?

In conclusion, here is a quote from Jason, "What God has done in you, He wants to do through you."

Brothers and sisters, let us be open to God and pour our lives out for Him.

Your sister in Jesus,  
Liz