

**It is not a mystery** when I water my flowers they grow, but starve them from water they wilt. Prayer for others as water for flowers have indeed no boundaries transcending time and space. But prayer also has a multitude of spiritual barriers in the heavens to overcome.

I know this all too well the 26 years of wilderness barriers before beginning BTGM. Even my recent computer crash loss of all documents and pictures coupled with unexpected attacks delayed October newsletter. **Yet all with a purpose:** to recognize the severity of spiritual warfare, but God can use it to opens door to reveal His power and glory.

Daniel stood firm in fasting and prayer for 3 weeks over a great foreign war as were so many other prophets who faced countless oppositions. ***“Then he continued, “Do not be afraid Daniel. Since the first day that you set your mind to gain understanding and to humble yourself before your God, your words were heard, and I have come in response to them. But the prince of the Persian kingdom resisted me 21 days. Then Michael one of the chief princes came to help me because I was detained there with the King of Persian. Now I have come...”*** Daniel 10: 12-14

Standing FIRM and STRONG, against the schemes of the devil. It is a prevailing spiritual military term of tenacity that never retreats. The same strategy resulting a mass movement to West Berlin and West Germany brought down the wall after 28 years and led the way to reunification on October 3, 1990.

Often times the tendency to give up praying thinking God must not be listening or cares or it isn't his will or plans. But we are assured He will answer one way or another. Not always what we think or even in our timing.

**Three buildings** on Lenora Church Rd. in Snellville became vacant in 2006. They were very suitable for almost any recovery housing or reentry center. But they sat vacant for years – pricey!! Driving by daily, I often envisioned in my mind a perfect suitable place for “recovery buildings”.

Finally our prayer team prayed over these vacant buildings for days that God would in some way use them for His Kingdom work. Driving by I **thanked God what we asked would come to pass.** To this day all three buildings have been renovated now into three separate church!

**GOODNEWS BAPTIST CHURCH, CHURCH OF CHAMPIONS, LIFEGATE CHURCH INTERNATIONAL.**

**It stands to reason** that darkness exist only in the **absence of LIGHT.** We are His light through His church if we are outside their 4 walls weekly proclaiming His Light. Darkness functions only to the laws of darkness. Where pray reigns with the presence of God's people, darkness has no choice but to leave.

Our weekly intercession in our Gwinnett Co. Court House auditorium has literally surrounded this building with **ENORMOUS PEACE** and freedom with the Gospel. We include **prayer** for our 45 judges, 5 school board members, 144 public school principals, and 16 mayors. They will be receiving letter of encouragement against the severity of socialism in our schools.

Persevering prayer also for all Metro Atlanta courthouses ignites God's Light of the Gospel where we envision.

To see this urgent need, Gwinnett Co. in a swelling pop. of **983,656 has had 32 homicides thus far in 2022.** But downtown Atlanta has a **514,457 pop., and homicides rising to 88 in 2022.** Downtown Atlanta has jump 60% from 2019 showing a 144% higher crime rate than the national average. Property crimes in Atlanta has shown a 67% higher than the GA average and ranking the 10<sup>th</sup> highest for homicide increase.

These figures are not newsworthy to cover up Atlanta's image by the media. **Yet in many areas the undercover contributors are open nightclubs till 3 & 5 am bumper to bumper “lighting the night” to fuel the alcohol for more crime.** This has also been the culprit for a rising homeless census count up to 3,240 this year. **(Thank you First Baptist Church of Lilburn for the significant contribution of home spun quilts with the Gospel to the homeless in Decatur and downtown Atlanta.)**

Though a small beginning, God's divine intervention has connected us with Pastor Richard Dalton who specializes in the most corrupt sections in west downtown Atlanta - **Grove Park. The crime rate there is 21% higher than the national average..** Churches functioning in isolation secluded within their four walls allows darkness to prevail. **Please earnestly pray God will stir these pastors/congregations into a weekly united corporate prayer for Grove Park to pierce the darkness of violence with the Gospel of Christ in every street corner.**

- Perimeter Pointe Church** 425 Ellsworth Industrial Blvd Atlanta, GA 30318
- Paradise Baptist Church** 1711 Donald Lee Hollowell Atlanta, GA 30318
- Mt Ephraim Baptist Church** 1202 W Marietta St NW Atlanta, GA 30318
- Lutheran Church of the Atonement** 875 Joseph E Boone Blvd NW Atlanta, GA 30314
- Simpson Street Church of Christ** 800 Joseph E Boone Blvd NW Atlanta, GA 30314
- Second Refuge Pentecostal Baptized Church** 60 Johnson Rd NW Atlanta, GA 30318
- People's Tabernacle Baptist Church** 936 Hollywood Rd NW Atlanta, GA 30318
- Greater Troy Street Baptist Church** 227 Troy St NW Atlanta, GA 30314
- Greater Deliverance Baptist Church** 705 Joseph E Lowery Blvd Atlanta, GA 30318
- Hunter Hills First Baptist Church** 166 Edwards St NW Atlanta, GA 30314

# THE JOURNEY WHERE NO ONE WANTS TO GO



**Jonathan Lopez's JOURNEY.** *"...for it is God who works in you to will and to act in order to fulfill his good purpose."*

Philippians 2:13. These words have been a reality

in my life since I was a child. There has always been in me a great desire and a desperation for the presence of God. I remember that I could feel his presence on the couch in the living room of my parents' house when listening to worship music and I raised my hands to heaven telling God I love you. I need you and I knew that God was listening to these words.

At the age of eleven I had the first opportunity playing at all the meetings of the congregation in the worship ministry. When we went to another congregation, the doors of the worship ministry opened again. It was a special grace from God which I love and thank Him.

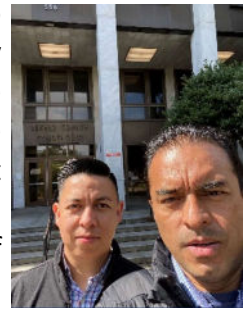
There were several years of uninterrupted service in the country of my birth in Mexico until at the age of nineteen God allowed me to come to the United States. I visited several congregations and doors of the ministry of worship would open before me.

In 2009 I met Oscar Lopez (BTGM's co laborer) who gave me a very special invitation to accompany them to sing in prison. **At first I hesitated a bit since I had never had an experience like this, but I buckled up the courage and agreed to go with them and wow!**

After our first visit I knew that it was God calling me to this place when I saw all those men who needed God. I saw how they received us with such hunger to hear and praise God. I was so shocked to be honest. I began to enjoy ministering to the prison than to the congregation where I attended.

I know this may sounds strange, but the people in our home church do not value the spirit of worship like the value I saw in these men in that prison.

I know this because I didn't go to prison the following Sunday. They scolded me and they told me where was I? You can't miss it! The freedom within a prison that paradoxically reminds me of a young man who sat in the back of the room every Sunday and said,



***"No, God doesn't love me, I'm very bad!"*** That same young man was touched by God and gave his life to the Lord in one of the meetings. It was a total change. Afterwards he rejoiced and praised God like the other brothers.

When he got out of prison he started his own business, and started attending a church. He called me on the phone to tell me the news. He told me, *"I know you play music in your church, but here our congregation needs help. You can't tell me no."* I began to support this small congregation in worship.

I also want to expose the lack of vision and discernment that exists in congregations. On one occasion I invited a young man to join us to prison for support. His response, *"NO, God made me free. I have nothing to do in a prison."*

**Dear brother or sister, God is calling His people to rally in prayer where no one wants to go, where we are not popular, where there are no cameras or applause from the people.**

If the Apostle Peter, Paul and other disciples had not started going out to preach in Judea in Samaria and throughout the earth **how would we have known the name of Jesus Christ.** Romans 10:14 May God continue to bless you.

After prayer and fasting, God connected me with Oscar Lopez again revealing to me the Dekalb Co. court hall ministry close where I live. I now join the prayer time in Gwinnett courthouse support. **Pray for us** as we weekly circle in prayer the Dekalb County Courthouse building where folks in need of the Gospel in repentance and forgiveness.

**The greatest challenge expanding BTGM into other county court halls has been few and temporary laborers. Pray God, who orchestrated Jonathan and Oscar, will be a permanent team in Dekalb and Gwinnett and sealed in the Holy Spirit's power.**