

# WOODFIN

Church Planting | San Francisco

Aug-Nov 2022

## -Jeff-

Our biggest failures can often be the times when God shows off the most.

In October after our launch service, I decided to do a Men's Fishing Outing. There were several men that wanted to join and I thought it would be a great way for the men of the church to invite their friends to something. Guess what, every single guy dropped out. It was looking like this outreach was a total bust. However, one lady in our church asked if she could go, and bring her grandson. Sure, I thought, why not, this thing was a total failure anyway.

So that Saturday morning at 7am it was me, Charmaine, her grandson A.J., and her husband Jeff. Charmaine and A.J. had first started to come a month earlier on our grand opening Sunday.

However, Jeff had pretty much written off religion and hadn't been to a church in years. This fishing outing was my first time meeting him. We got to talk a lot and we all had a lot of fun. A.J. even caught a shark.



Jeff with his family

Soon after this, Jeff came to a service. Then another, then another, including the service where A.J. got baptized.

Then, 7 months after our initial meeting during our Easter service, Jeff asked to talk with me after the service. It was then that Jeff said that he had accepted Jesus as his Savior during our invitation time. That fishing outing wasn't such a failure after all.

Church planting means feeling like you are failing constantly, only to watch as God performs his miracles over and over and over. His grace is always more than sufficient.

### UPDATES:

Our church has now been going for a year since our grand opening. There have been crazy ups and downs. Most recently we had to enact church discipline on a guy that was actively trying to divide the church. However, God led him to a place of repentance and he stood before the church and repented of his sin and divisiveness. After that service, I had a man come up to me. Branches is the first church he has ever been a part of and with tears in his eyes he told me how thankful he was to have a church where repentance and forgiveness could take place. God is good and even has a purpose through the pain.

Our church now has 3 weekly small group bible studies going on, including an intensive discipleship group with Hali and I. People are growing, serving, and God is still blessing.

Please pray for us: Hali will have our new baby girl by the end of December. I am exhausted between working my two other jobs and planting, but God is sustaining. We also have a few other people that have talked with us about moving to San Francisco to help us plant the church and the next church Lord willing. Pray that God continues to send laborers.

Thank you for your continued prayers and support. Sorry if you got two letters at once in the mail. If you all are not on our email list please email me at [JakeWoodfinSF@gmail.com](mailto:JakeWoodfinSF@gmail.com) and I can put you on our list to receive our letters and videos faster.



One of our Bible Study Groups



### CONTACT US:

Mail: 2122 43rd Ave. San Francisco, CA 94116  
Email: [jakewoodfinsf@gmail.com](mailto:jakewoodfinsf@gmail.com)  
Phone: 415-410-4889