

Salvador Lara

Missionary to Mexico.



February 2023

Dear Brethren,

I hope that everyone is doing well. A lot has happened these past few months. From being in Texas to going to California to visit my family. If you remember, I have mentioned that my parents were deported from California when I was young. This passed March they were able to get their American residency. Our family is truly grateful. For my parents to be back in the states after seventeen years. The moment my father got the news that he was going to be able to go back to the states, he started making preparations to leave the mission work in Baja, Mexico in charge of a brother named Jorge. Bro Jorge has been helping my father in the mission work for a couple of years now. He really has shown that he wants to work in the ministry. He really has initiative attitude. He was scared at first since this would be Bro Jorge's first ministry as pastor, but it has been almost a year since then and it seems the mission work in Baja, Mexico is doing really well. A few families have joined the church since then. I do ask to keep Bro Jorge in your prayers. His wife just had a miscarriage around Christmas. It was hard for them at first but they are standing strong.



As for my father, going back to the states wasn't as easy as he thought it would have been. Sadly, he has to start all over again. Last time he was in the states he did have a work permit and social security, but this time he has to do it all over again. He also realized that California was not cheap as he remembers. But he has a good job at the moment as a construction worker. Working at his younger brother's construction company. The funny thing for me was that when he went back to the states some of the churches we know since I was a kid ask my father to preach. One church specifically asked if he wanted to take the pastorate of the church. Now my father did not plan to be a pastor right away, but I told him "don't run away from it dad, or else God is going to send you back to Mexico". He laughed when I told him that. But after praying about it he decided to take on the pastorate of El Camino Baptist Church in Lompoc, CA. I ask to keep this ministry in prayer too. The church is doing well. Still a small church but my father has big plans for it. Keep them in your prayers. God has funny ways to put people in the ministry sometimes, but when He wants somebody to serve Him, he will prepare that path for those to walk in it.



In the month of January, we had some visitors from Indiana. They came from a church called Solid Rock Baptist Church. They came as a missionary trip to help some churches with certain projects. One of them was to help put the church in Tala by the pastor Moises Contreras. If you remember I have mentioned this pastor before. This is the church in a town

near the city where they have been constructing almost since I started deputation. The building is still not done yet. And Solid Rock Baptist Church came down to Tala and help put the roof on. The only thing we put was beams on and then we put blocks in between. We had a great time. Then after that, in the evening, the pastor of Solid Rock Baptist Church preached at my home church. While one of the members of Solid Rock and I stayed behind to preach in pastor Moises's church. The brother's name is David Young. It was a new experience for both of us, because it was the first time Bro David preached outside of the country, and it was my first time that I translated from English to Spanish in a big crowd. We were both so nervous that just in case even I had a translator just in case. To our surprise, it went great, the message got to the congregation.

After the service, we had laughs and a great time. This was bro David's first missionary trip. He told me that he had just a great time getting to know a new country, new culture, new people and especially how Mexican people lives really are here in the motherland. It was a Blessing to get to know bro David and Solid Rock Baptist Church.

This past month our church had our first youth rally of the year. Every two months we gather youths from close by churches that we work with and have just one big youth meeting. We all had a great time. It was a perfect day. The weather was just right. The guest speaker had a great message for the youth talking about certain situations that most young people go through. It was very applicable. After the message, we had games where we made sure that the youth were going to get tired. Then, after the games we had what we called "piernas subs". They are basically chicken thigh subs. It was a good first youth rally to start the year. I pray that each youth rally is better than the last.



When I came back home in January, I got to meet the new interns of our bible school. Apparently they heard a lot of things about me. When I got back the first they told me was so you're the famous Salvador Lara. I didn't know what to respond. These guys are really funny they all have a really big sense of humor. Their names are Josafat, Israel, and Jonathan. Josafat comes from a church that we once had an extension of our bible school. The church is in Zacatecas, Mexico. Bro Josafat came to the intern because he has plans to take the master program our school has. Bro Israel comes from a state of Colima, Mexico. Now Colima is a very but very hot place to be. When I met bro Israel he was always wearing a jacket cause of how cold it is for him here. When the weather here is about 70 degrees. So you can imagine how hot it is in Colima, Mexico. Bro Jonathan is a bro that comes from a church a little away from the city of Guadalajara. His pastor is one of our graduates. Rolando Ortiz. It's great to see that our bible school is still going. These boys really do seem to have the desire to learn and work in the ministry. I ask to keep them in your prayer.



As for me, I have finished deputation. I didn't get to the percentage I had in mind, but it was time for me to come back home. My pastor needed help in the Bible school. As of right now I am in the bible school helping my pastor with the interns and some of the classes of the night school. He sure had work ready for me once I got back. I am teaching five classes right now, I am teaching Pastoral Epistles, Introduction to the New Testament, Minor Prophets, a course of Youth Pastor, and a book called Peace within the Family. It amazing to see how much one can learn when he is teaching than when he was a student. As for the ministry wise, I am going to be working more closely with pastor Moises in his church in Tala. My pastor believes it would be great for me to be helping pastor Moises with him at his church. Right now pastor Moises doesn't have leaders to help him out with his ministry, he needs all the help he can get. I have gone almost every Sunday evening to help him with preaching. The plan was to start Sunday school, but my pastor has me doing Sunday school at my home church for now. Once, I finish my series on Ester, I will start going to Tala in the morning and do Sunday school there. I just started going to Tala to help pastor Moises, I ask to keep in your prayers that I can be of great help for pastor Moises and his church. The plan that pastor Moises told me is that he wants to leave to start a other ministry, either in the city or another state, and once the building is done, he wants me to take over the church. I also ask to keep that in prayer as well.

One thing I do want to mention real quick is that I don't longer have an American phone number. Right now I only have a Mexican phone number. I am sorry if I have been able to keep in contact through phone. If you need to contact me you can do so by calling me at +52 1 3314458096, keep in mind that you do have to put the +52 1 in front. If you can not get a hold of me through this number, the best way would be through my email sallara@wwntbm.com. Thank you very much and I hope you have a great day. God bless.

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