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WWNTBM

## Aug 2017 – New Church

Dear prayer warriors, I know that we all go through times when it is harder to pray than others. I have often heard Christians compare prayer with breathing. As I thought about that on one particular day when I was struggling to pray, I thought about the fact that when we run we breathe more, and though that is the time when breathing is the hardest, it is also the most necessary. We do not stop breathing but breathe even more in such times. I tend to think that we are not very good at measuring our prayers. The prayers that come easiest and cost us little, we may gauge as more spiritual. Nevertheless, such easy prayers may be of less value to God than the ones that cost us the most. May I encourage you to breathe much prayer when you feel it to be the hardest.

We had our first official service on the 16th of July. Sometimes, I felt like the day would never come, but the Gospel carries such power with it that people were bound to be saved. This service did not come without obstacles, but in spite of the obstacles there were big blessings. Miguel Angel is a Christian man who was on vacation from Mexico City. He checked the internet to see if there were any Baptist churches in this area and found my number. It just so happened (yeah right!) that he called me the night before our first service. So we had the blessing of having a mature Christian visit with us. He was an encouragement to the new believers here as well as a personal blessing to us.

For our third service, we also had a visit from another Miguel, Juanita (Nena's brother-in-law and sister), and Gloria (Nena's adult niece). They have been seeing positive changes in Nena's life and so have come to hear the Word for themselves. It looks like they plan on being with us every service. I also have begun a weekly Bible study in their homes. Two more visitors came as well. One was a lady named Lucia. She was invited by Rufina and came this last Sunday. She sounds interested in continuing to come. Brother Alfredo (Nena's brother) has been working with their mother Lola, and recently she told him that she wasn't interested in knowing anything about the Bible; she is happy with what her parents passed on to her. I was greatly surprised that she visited with us this last service. The whole time she was very standoffish, and I wonder what motive she had in coming. Pray all these visitors would have their eyes opened to the glorious Gospel.

One of the greatest things is that Rufina (one of Nena's life-long-friends) put her trust in Jesus' finished work this last month! Heaven roars with praise over another soul, and our hearts echo that praise here in San Miguel! Rufina has turned out to be an outstanding servant of God and others. We are thankful for the help.

On August 6, our few people were thrilled to host my dad's church for a service and meal. What an encouragement to see their excitement and willingness to serve, provide food, and

### Ortiz Family

#### PRAISES:

- Rufina's salvation
- More open doors than we can handle
- Having begun regular church services
- Hannah's Green Card

#### PRAYER

#### REQUESTS:

- Protection in a very wicked time of the year
- God's blessing on our mission church
- Strength and endurance of the believers

**Growth:** Hannah and me, Alfredo, Nena, Rufina, María del Carmen, and Maricela

**Salvation:** Héctor, José, Gladys, Jorge, Sabino & Margarita, Edgar, Ramon, AnaDelia, Seve, Roberto, Lucino & Cuca, Arturo, Arnulfo & Lupita, Eliu, Juan Pablo, Carlos, Miguel, Miguel & Juanita, Gloria, Lucia, etc.

Serving in San Miguel El Alto, Jalisco, México

come very early to prepare! We fed thirty-eight people, and they made sure our house/church was clean again before leaving. Visiting with my dad's church was also a family from the States, from one of our supporting churches. Again, what an encouragement!

Several new doors have opened up in town as well, and we have our hands full. Pray God gives me the stamina and ability to keep up with all we have on our plate.

This last Sunday I preached on the importance of the Bible and challenged them to go through the entire NT before the end of this year, giving them a plan to check off every day. Four people took up the challenge with us, one of which was a visitor.

Another praise we have is for Hannah's paper work. She now has her Mexican Green Card and can live here permanently without being charged large fees. The lawyer tells us that two years from now she will be able to get her Mexican citizenship. This praise may not sound so big, but because I and the girls are Mexican, it greatly sped up the time and reduced the cost to do this.

September is undoubtedly going to be a time of greater spiritual opposition. It is the month of their celebration and worship of Michel the archangel. The town, I'm told, will double in population, and there will be parties on every street. Ironically, it is the time of the year that the most robberies, fights, and even deaths occur. Our field will be under a cloud of darkness. Please pray God's light will shine through the clouds of wickedness, and that even in this month people will be saved. Also pray for our church as some of the new believers are fighting vices of their past, and they will definitely be put to the test this next month.

In Prayer,

Rolando, Hannah, Azelia, and Viana



Sunday  
Service  
on the 30th

Hannah's  
Green Card

