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WWNTBM

Ortiz Family

Jul 2020 – Deep Gratitude

I want to start by expressing how amazed and grateful I am with God and each one of you in this time of trial. I knew early on in this “pandemic” that many of our supporting churches had people out of work and often out of church. I personally know a missionary who lost his funds and had to leave his mission to sustain himself. Having that in mind, I want to take this chance (as I don’t know if I will always have this chance) to say to you who help in finances, that I would completely understand if you ceased to support us for this time of trouble. If we never received any more support, we would still be indebted and grateful for all that has been so faithfully sacrificed. But I am absolutely blown away by the fact that our support (as of yet) has not decreased in the minimal. We actually had one new church take us on for support in this time! That says so much about the love of God that sustains you and the love for God and faith in Him that has led you to be part of sustaining us. Again, if that were to change next month or in the months to come, I would praise God for you, constantly praying that you would see great reward for your labor of love. We were able to help the missionary who lost his support during his hardest time because of God’s work in you! May God richly reward you in this world, as well as in the world to come!

Watching the news, one thing is certain: the Lord’s coming is getting closer. It is disconcerting to see how much violence there is in so many people, it is sad to see people who allow themselves to be carried by the philosophy of the world, it is disturbing to see how fast things are setting up for one world government. Weather has been extra irregular, and according to the Bible, that will become more and more normal. But I rejoice because it means good things are coming for the believer! Hannah is 34 weeks pregnant, and the Braxton Hicks have begun to increase in intensity. The contractions get stronger every day. This is not a bad sign but a motive to rejoice because our child will soon be born (by early September)! Likewise, the birth pains of this world may be more and more violent, but they show us that we are closer to the time this earth births a new stage in God’s plan!

While I’m on the point, the earthquake in México a few weeks ago did not effect us at all in Jalisco. We appreciate those who said a prayer for us upon hearing of it.

Before the world shut down, we had planned to be in the States in June. We went ahead and ordered some things we wanted for the baby’s birth and some materials for church classes. We pretty much gave up on the idea as things escalated, but communicating with some friends near the border, we were informed that we could still cross without problems. When, halfway through June, the Mexican government announced that churches would remain closed for some time, we saw this as a chance to at least go pick up what we ordered and return quickly. Since all church activity was through transmission, I just continued preaching “in” México while I was State-side for almost three weeks. We saw three churches, and we rushed back.

While things are fairly closed here, we have been able to congregate 10-15 people at a time, and many home visits have not stopped. We rejoice that Rosy (a family member or one of our church members) professed that she gave her life to Christ. Also Gilberto who

PRAISES:

Rosy’s profession
Gilberto’s baptism
The love of the saints
The faithfulness of God
Safe travels

PRAYER REQUESTS:

Nena and her family
Rosy’s growth
Gilberto’s growth
Hannah’s pregnancy
Employment for Miguel Angel

Joyfully serving God in Arandas & San Miguel el Alto, Jalisco, Mexico

came to saving faith last year got baptized this year. It was our church's joy to be part of God's work in them.

This month, the government threatens to close more tightly than in the beginning, so we restocked our church food bank and prepared for whatever may come.

One discouraging note is that a single mother who last year decided to take her family out of church rather than submit to church discipline called me this last week wanting me to talk to her daughters. They have become extremely rebellious. I talked to them, and they said that they are confused and don't want anything to do with Christianity or the Bible any more. They expressed that many Christians were just hypocritical and judgemental. Sad to say, they used the exact words their mother had used the year before. It is heartbreaking to see them regress because we worked two years with them and had seen them progress in many things. Their mother still will not forgive or ask forgiveness of those in church with whom she had friction. Please pray for Nena (mother) and Kristal and Melanie (teenage daughters).

To end on a positive note, two young men who were under church discipline are well on the way to full restoration. Angels in Heaven rejoice for God's grace, and we rejoice with them!

Also, I am happy that a friend of mine (Miguel Angel Lira) has come from México city to live in Arandas and be with us. He has been an encouragement to our church, and I am praying we can be a blessing to him.

Watching and praying,

Rolando and family



Gilberto's Baptism