



**Ortiz Family
Serving in Arandas
and San Miguel el
Alto, Jalisco, Mexico**

**(52)-347-105-8803
1611 Brookhaven Mill
Rd.
Greensboro, NC 27406
Rolanzwot@gmail.com
WWNTBM**

THE DRIEST SEASON,

A warm greeting to all of you who stand behind us and make it possible for us to serve God here in Mexico!

May is the driest month here in Jalisco because it is the month right before the rainy season. Everything that was green last year is now a brownish/yellow hue. The large water holes that farmers have used to feed the livestock are now almost dry. It gets so dry that even the cacti start to lose their color. Yet, this is the time of year that everyone is planting their fields.

Who guarantees that we will even get rain this year? There is not a cloud in the sky that indicates rain. All the seed that is planted could be lost. Still, the farmers are out working hard, trusting that the rain will come.

The same is true of our ministry. Every year we work hard to get the Gospel out and wait upon the Lord for new blessings and more converts. He has always delivered.

I believe I mentioned in the last letter that they had asked me to be the keynote speaker at a youth camp. That meant I would preach five times during the week at an average of 45 minutes each night. That's 16,000 words at the speed I usually preach. It just seems like too little for all that needs to be said to the rising generation. I had one month to prepare the five messages, and I still had all of my normal duties in the two churches. The more I realised how overwhelming the task was, the more I had to run to Christ. And by His grace, He helped me get everything together in time.

Between San Miguel and Arandas, we had seven teens go with us to camp, which added up to over 200 teens (**pic**). From our churches, Karina, Melany, and Nuri made professions of faith before the week was up! Most returned with notable excitement to serve the Lord!

I talked myself hoarse on the way home from camp as I told them that their faith would be put to the test. At camp they had good influences, they prayed regularly, and had Bible all day long. At home, if they don't pray and feed on the Word, it will only be a matter of time before they stumble into old habits. One of the the parents had already called me and told me to leave her daughter with a cousin because she was at a party **and that had stired me. It has now been three weeks since camp, and they continue to stand firm. Please pray for them because none of them have an ideal situation at home. Also pray for the youth of the other churches that attended.

One of the young men in our church (Jonathan) wants to go to Bible college and get prepared to serve God better. Pray for him as I am giving him special one-on-one discipleship while he is still here with us. We already have two young adults in Bible college, and we are glad that God is preparing more laborers who came out of our church. God's

PRAISES:

- Three more souls
- Selicia's paperwork finished
- Good time at camp
- Upcoming baptisms
- Men and women's studies
- New pamphlets

PRAYER REQUESTS:

- Nena and her family (backslidden)
- Hannah's final step in her imigration paperwork
- Youth stability and growth
- Jonathan's preparation
- Much needed wisdom
- Direction on whether to do furlough this year
- More showers of God's grace

grace is already raining on us, and we are praying for a bountiful harvest.

As of now, we have three young ladies who want to be baptized. Hannah gave them our baptism discipleship. We are trying to program the event before the end of this month.

Last year we started three Bible studies in Arandas: one for men, one for women, and one for kids. We decided to postpone them because of Covid 19, but we have now reopened them. The focus of these studies have been biblical manhood and womanhood. We call the adult studies Titus 1 and Titus 2 as we focused the studies on and patterned them after those passages.

Late last year I sat down with some Baptist pastors from the Guadalajara area, and we decided we are going to get our youth together bi-monthly. We have had two of the rallies so far, and we pray that God will use them to challenge the lives of the teens in our churches.

Another new thing we started was making our own trifold pamphlets (**pic**). These pamphlets help us summarize and simplify biblical teaching. The ones we have finished cover a wide range of subjects. Two we made on marriage, three on evangelism, one on baptism, one on the Lord's Supper, one on how to read the Bible, and one yearly Bible reading plan. The idea is to keep making more on subjects that will benefit the church.

We also set up a little library in the church (**pic**). It is not the cultural norm to read much here in Mexico, but we hope we can cultivate the love of reading by putting good books at their disposal.

I also want to thank the Lord that our daughter's paperwork has finally been finished. Everything was slow due to Covid 19, but we finally got the last step done.

Hannah's paperwork is also one (very involved) step from finally being done. The present problem is the need to go to Mexico City in order to start. Pray God will give us direction on this.

Praying for showers of blessing upon all of you,

Rolando, Hannah, Azelia, Viana, Amadeo, and Selicia

P.S. We are again considering going to the US this fall to report in person on what God has been doing. With Covid 19, we are hesitant, but we need to make a decision fast so we can get our schedule together and see if we can visit all of our supporting churches. Please pray for wisdom, direction, and good scheduling.

