



**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**

Year After Year - Tear After Tear

I am a little more rushed than normal in writing this letter because I have been having trouble finding time to sit down and do it, but if I wait any longer I may miss the chance to ask you to pray for some upcoming events.

The main thing I really want to put on the list is VBS. We are about to start on Monday the 19th and have really been trying to seek God's face regarding it. It has been exciting to see the people in our church get out and help us invite kids, and it has been even more exciting, at least to me, that our kids were some of the ones out inviting. I pray God will catch their hearts early and that this would be the beginning of a lifetime habit of being involved in outreach.

We haven't ever bought VBS material; we just put together what we can ourselves. It saves the church money, and it makes it more tethered to our particular situation. Of course, that means more work on our part, but so far it has gone well. Last year we didn't have any VBS because of Covid-19, but the year before we had around 40 kids. We are praying for that much or more this year! The theme God gave me was "Operation: Yes, Sir!" It is a military theme. Just as soldiers say, "Yes, Sir!" to their authorities, kids must do the same to theirs. I want to apply that to obeying their parents but also take it to another level and explain what the will of God is for them, beginning with placing their faith in the crucified and risen Savior. Please pray this message will be planted in many hearts.

One concern I have had lately is that our prayer meeting has slowly dwindled into less and less attendance. We started out with a big group, and now we are down to two or three families. I fear that, though it may not seem serious to some, it may be the symptom of most concern to God. On the positive side, it has challenged us to pray harder and more consistently. I have been studying Daniel's prayer life and have been convicted by his "I'd rather die than stop praying" resolution. May God use this to rekindle the fire in our hearts.

We have made it to the fourth anniversary of our church in San Miguel, and it certainly has not been an easy journey. Year after year, tear after tear, and by God's grace we have stayed in the good fight. Many of those tears have been of sorrow, but many have been of joy. God has not left us alone at any moment.

I will keep this prayer letter shorter than normal because we have a load of preparation for both the anniversary celebration (Sunday 18th) and the VBS, but I will try to recount a few things we have done lately.

PRAISES:

- Hosting missionaries
- Four years in SM
- Colima conference
- Another baptism
- Selicia's safety

PRAYER REQUESTS:

- Nena and her family
(backslidden)
- VBS
- Many battles
- Faith Promise
- Prayer meeting
attendance
- Church anniversary
- Selicia's teeth

We had four weeks of missionary emphasis this last month in which we had two Mexican missionaries share their burden for serving God, one working in Mexico and the other going to Ghana. This was a blessing as both missionaries did a good job.

We also had the wonderful opportunity to have some missionaries friends (Adrian and Emma Hendricks) come all the way from India to Mexico. Their destination was the US, but they were not allowed to fly directly in because of Covid. They had to spend 14 days in an “approved” country before flying in, and Mexico made the list. What a privilege to have them come. They were a blessing to Hannah, the kids, and me. Brother Adrian Hendricks preached one Sunday while here, and I got a lot of positive feedback from the church about it.

Please pray as we are starting Faith Promise in the Arandas church. Pray God will burden us all with the great commission!

One other thing out of the ordinary was that I was invited to preach in Colima, Mexico. The pastor of the church asked me to speak on something doctrinal and practical, so we prayed about it and eventually decided to base the conference on Philippians 2:1-11 and title it “Of One Mind.” The conference was about humility, submission, service, and sacrifice. God seemed to bless the conference, and I continue to pray for a lasting effect.

We also have a special praise. You may have seen on Facebook that our baby girl, Selicia, had hurt herself in a fall. Her two, front, middle teeth had been slammed forward, ripping open the gums. Thank God, neither the teeth nor the jaw were fractured or significantly injured, so we were able to forego any procedures or surgery! The teeth did pull back some, and we will follow up with the dentist in a few months to make sure all continues to heal well. The main prayer is that it will not cause lasting damage.

My prayers are for all of you as I know the summer is full of activities for many,

Bless you,

Rolando, Hannah, and the kids

