



November 2020

Buenos Días Mis Queridos Hermanos, (Good Day, my Dear Brethren,)

We're back in Mexico and full swing into the work. Praise God for safety and guidance getting back home to Mexico without any major problems. With lots of prayers, we crossed the border early on a Monday morning and they didn't even ask for our ID. In fact, I didn't even roll my window down! But a few hours later we had an officer stop us (3 hours from the border) and tell us that our vehicle was unregistered in Mexico, most likely stolen, and they'd have to confiscate it; but PRAISE GOD we were able to pray through it, and after about 20 minutes, they sent us on our way with a warning.

After a few days of settling in, we got right into the work. We visited many people, started all the discipleships back up, and have seen people saved since! The discipleships have proven to be a huge blessing. It's a lot of work for us, while doing 6 a week, but it's incredible to see the growth in their hearts and lives. An example; after doing a baptism lesson with a couple, they both knew they needed to get baptized as a desired act of obedience. I have discussed with you that many times people don't get baptized because of family persecution. Here in Mexico, family is everything. That is their life support for health and retirement because there aren't government programs. Therefore it takes faith to follow the Lord in believers baptism and walk out of the family religion of Catholicism. They told me that is what they were struggling with due to family persecution. I encouraged them in the Lord and said when they are ready, I'm ready. After three days of family, friends, and neighborhood fights over Catholicism, they said that they don't care what everyone else is saying to them, they want to follow Jesus Christ!! Praise God!!

We just had our 1st Anniversary Conference this past weekend. Praise the Lord the church made it through it's first year in the new location with fruit. There are new saved people, the church is supporting three missionaries, and I feel like it is growing spiritually as lives are being changed for God. There definitely have been some major struggles, along with spiritual warfare, but it sure is awesome seeing the Lord give the increase and seeing fruit from the labor! The conference was really good with three days loaded with preaching, music specials, testimonies, and a great spirit. There were way more people than we expected; people were packed all the way out the door, and some ended up standing outside around all the windows in order to see and hear everything! I couldn't believe it. We were really encouraged, and I pray the church members were as well to "press toward the mark" for Jesus Christ.

Our focus now is on finishing the discipleships that we currently have, so that we can start others, and to continue on with what God has for us and this church. Praise God, there are people waiting to start new discipleships and we also have some baptisms coming up in the next few weeks!

Please continue to pray for us as there is a brutal spiritual battle here in this area. Pray for the church to do the work, and God to get the glory. Also, please pray for direction- I believe God is leading us to do a mini furlough in the spring/summer to visit churches on the west coast. I'd like the Lord's leading and blessing in planning that.

Brothers and sisters keep up the good fight!

God bless-The Russell Family Adam, Sarah, Cristian, Kendra, Braden



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PRAYERS

Fluency in the language

Church in Guayabitos

National "Timothy"

Safety/well being of our family

> Sarah's Health

Short furlough trip

