



February 2014

Dear Praying Friends,

"I will mention the lovingkindnesses of the Lord, and the praises of the Lord, according to all that the Lord hath bestowed on us, and the great goodness toward the house of Israel, which he hath bestowed on them according to his mercies, and according to the multitude of his lovingkindnesses." Isaiah 63:7

Just as God bestowed great lovingkindness and goodness towards Israel, He has done the same for us. The blessings that the Lord has bestowed upon us have been numerous.



Much of our ministry focus has been helping churches train their people through our Bible institute classes. These classes have been used throughout the Spanish-speaking world through video and now DVD for many years. Six years ago our focus became recording higher level Bible courses here in Monterrey. We have continued to see the OREMUNDO Bible institute courses used mightily through this time. Over the past six years we have recorded over 25 courses at the Christian university and continue to record more each semester. As with anything time has a way of creeping up on us, and we were reminded of the aging of our Bible institute materials. Over the past year, I have been working on a new plan of studies and a plan to update our courses. When we returned to Monterrey this past fall, I was sharing this plan with one of the other missionaries. He said that I needed to talk to one of the local pastors who wanted to start a Bible institute. The three of us met and began talking about setting up a local Bible institute so that locals could come. Furthermore we could record the classes to be used in churches throughout the Spanish-speaking world. To make a long story short,

within two weeks we were announcing that classes would begin in January for a Bible institute here in Guadalupe. We were hoping 20 students would attend, but we set the class limit at 35 as that filled our classroom. As interest started building, we quickly passed the 20 student mark, then we passed the enrollment of 35! At this point I didn't know what to do. I didn't want to turn away people interested in studying the Bible. So I went into the classroom, took out all the tables and counted how many chairs we could fit in the room and came up with a very tight 50. That became the limit. January 14th we began our first class with Biblical Theology with 48 students. Our Thursday class of Church history had an enrollment of 42. We praise the Lord for what He is doing through this Bible institute. It has been amazing to hear the testimonies of many who have told us they have been praying for years for an opportunity to go to a Bible institute. Please be in prayer for the Bible Institute. We trust to have the entire curriculum recorded in two years.

In the past we mentioned the Bible institute that we were able to help start in Zacatecas. Our last letter shared about the graduation of the first year students. We are excited that they wanted to continue studying and have begun the second year of studies. Russell and Jonathan Latham are planning on going to Zacatecas the end of March to visit them and encourage those studying to continue forward. We are thankful that a church in Illinois has taken on this project as a special mission project and has provided the funds so that Russell and Jonathan can travel back and forth to Zacatecas.



Russell and Jonathan were recently approached by another group of pastors who heard about the ministry in Zacatecas and wanted something similar in their area. This group is from the state of Chiapas, a new area of the country for us. Chiapas is on the southern border of Mexico next to Guatemala. Russell and Jonathan, along with two other men, will be traveling next week to Chiapas to visit with these pastors, see the need, and hold a two day conference. We are excited about this possibility. Please be in prayer that the Lord will provide partners with us to help with the travel expenses to Chiapas. Our plan is to go 2-3 times a year to visit those studying and hold a 2-3 day conference at the same time. The gas expense for each trip will be about \$1,000 to take four of us to Chiapas.

Grace Baptist Church continues to do well. We are excited about what God is doing in the lives of those attending. As with any young, growing church there are always an abundance of spiritual battles, but we have seen the mighty hand of God working in many lives. We would appreciate your prayers as we are currently dealing with a problem on the property of the church. The person from whom the church is buying the property has not been making the payments on the property which is causing some difficulties. The church is now trying to finish paying off the property directly, so that we no longer have to deal with the second party. Please be in prayer that the Lord will provide. Currently the church owes about \$14,000 USD on the property.



Debbie continues to have sweet times of discipleship with a number of the young ladies here in the area. They are currently studying the book of Ephesians, and it has been a blessing to all of them. She recently had the opportunity to go to a week-long counseling training emphasizing counseling women. It was a great blessing to Debbie. We are sure it will be a blessing to many more in the future. She is currently working on putting some material together so that she can share it with some ladies in a couple of different churches here in the area.

Carena continues to progress through the fourth grade. Her piano lesson are progressing well each week. She loves playing with her friends and taking care of some of the smaller children who come to visit.

Thank you for your faithful prayers and support,

Russell, Debbie and Carena Raymer

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