



The Russell Family

Missionaries to Mexico

March-April
2019

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

Things are looking a lot different for us recently. The majority of the foreigners from America and Canada started to head back home in March, so by the middle of April the congregation was much thinner. We had a send off luncheon as a church on one Sunday in March along with testimonies from both foreigners and Mexicans, which ended up being a great blessing for the whole church. We are now strictly Spanish again.

I had been praying for a while that the Lord would connect us with any other Baptists works close to our area for associations for the future; and the Lord answered! We were invited to a conference from a pastor I had heard of about two hours from here. From that meeting I met five other pastors, and one of them invited us to come preach a service in his church about 45 minutes from us. We had a great time of fellowship and encouragement with them. They used to be connected to our church many years ago, so it was a blessing for him to see someone picking up the torch in this area again.

I had sent out a note to everyone attached with family photos last month. This was an answer to prayer because we have needed family pictures for a few years with the kids growing like weeds. The Lord provided through a foreign family visiting our church who were professional photographers. I pray it was a blessing for all, and if you did not receive them please let me know and I can resend it to you.

April was very busy and hectic with people. Throughout all of Mexico there is a two week religious vacation ceremony for everyone (thanks Rome). The whole government shuts down and the majority of businesses as well for the full two weeks. It is for Semana Santa (Holy Week); which is for the week before and after the death of Jesus. There are many rituals to symbolize the death of Jesus accompanied with LOTS of alcohol and dancing all night. They walk the streets with idols, whipping themselves during the day and drink and dance all night to worldly music...talk about being spiritual huh? They don't have one special celebration set aside for the resurrection.... I found that crazy, so I preached the resurrection and the greatness of it above all else on Sunday!

For the second week of Semana Santa, the Jones family have their teen bible camp up in the mountains. We asked y'all to pray a while back for our church to have a teen group, and praise the Lord I believe God is answering. I started announcing that we were going to camp and that we needed teens to go, so the church started inviting everyone they knew....and we ended up with five teens to take to camp!

The week of camp is very intense with every minute filled with games, eating, and preaching for the teens, but they loved it. It was a new experience for a couple of our teens, especially preaching, but even they enjoyed it. By the end of the week I believe the Lord worked on all of their hearts mightily and has started something great for our church. One young lady surrendered her life to the Lord's service, and later spoke with my wife about the next steps to take to begin growing and preparing! Amen! After the final altar call I pulled all of them aside and spoke with them about walking for the Lord if they desired to act on what God has put in their hearts that week. They all agreed that they needed to get in church and start growing....so we are officially starting a teen group!!

This last Friday we had our first teen get together, and we all had a blast. Several teens invited friends that had never come to church before, and we had a total of 10 for our first get together! I am praying that God would keep the fire stoked up and help us to grow these teens to serve Him instead of this world. Please pray with us for these teens and the others God adds to the group.

This month we will have our first baptisms! It was suppose to be earlier, but it was delayed. Also we are putting together an evangelistic conference. I have two preachers, a large space in the middle of town, people from the church making food, special music being prepared, and the invitations are printed. We are inviting all of Lo de Marcos, as well as three small villages close by for the next three weeks and praying that God can do a mighty work through the closed hearts of Lo de Marcos. The theme is "His grace is sufficient". Please pray for this effort, and I will give an update at the end of the month.

Brothers and sisters keep up the good fight!



SENDING CHURCH
Faith Baptist
Church
436 Coal Creek Rd.
Chehalis, WA

SUPPORT ADDRESS
Word for the
World
Baptist Ministries
PO BOX 849
Rossville, GA
30741

CONTACT INFO
(360) 508-9572
zions11b@yahoo.com
russells2mexico.com



PRAYERS

Fluency in the
language

Church in
Lo de Marcos

Property for
the church

National
"Timothy"

Safety/well
being of our
family

Sarah's
Health

Teen group

Evangelistic
Conference