

January 2024

Combe Family in Mexico City, Mexico

Hello to All in Christ Jesus,

“This world is not my home, I’m just a passin’ through.” I have quickly lost over 25 lbs this last month and yet continue to seek doctors and naturalists to find a way through this but are keeping up our hopes. My stamina does continue to wain but my focus is fixed like a flint. Thank you for your prayers.

Over 20 visitors for our Missions Campaign was a highlight for our December and January time. Our faithful people are amazing! Many have been ostracized from their families because of their faith in our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ but through sacrificial lives and holy testimonies, have convinced many of their staunch and religious family members to come see what great things the Lord hath done for them. Felix and Maria an older couple in their late 70’s were the ones that brought the most visitors. For the month of January, 41 individual precious men and women trusted Christ and the church house was filled every Sunday, for which we are thankful. Please pray for Shantall Maldonado. As we have Thursday mid-week services, she is one that leads the lady’s group at her house on Wednesday afternoons and is scheduled for a spinal surgery in March. Your prayers are desired as the waters are deep and dark. Thank you ahead of time.

This year, my dearest Holly and I are closing in on our 38th anniversary and yet we still act like we’re 27-year-old “spring chickens”. Your prayers of love and good will towards our lives, ministry and upcoming golden years are like a cool drink of water from afar away country.

When Enrique Alfaro and his wife Cristina were saved many years ago, it was a booming transformation from the Catholic worldly celebrations of dead saints to the LIVING CHRIST! Their children also came to Christ: Bryan, Liliana, Diana grew in their faith along with their mom and dad. They were married and then came Wendy, their youngest child. All was well for many years, but Cristina’s past life of drugs slowly showed up in many ways of unkept children and house and the lack of attention to her husband. And it was at first strange at church how they used to sit at the front, then at the middle and then at the back and then not. I was disheartened as I was the one that had led them to Christ. I would see them from time to time when visiting but they kept their distance and their privacy and I respected that but kept praying and fasting for a victorious end. Then one day after 2 years, I saw Cristina on the street, but did not even recognize her. She was so thin, so drawn back as the evidence of a drug life was strong. She said, Bro. David, we are in a bad way, please go and visit Enrique - I did (as they had been separated for some time). He was not there but I left a gospel tract, a prayer with a simple message: Jesus still loves you and so do I. He told me later that when arriving at his house, there was something at the gate and he discharged it as a pizza flyer or something like that, but the *“Holy Voice Within”* said, pick it up. When he saw the handwritten message from me, tears came to his eyes knowing how far and long he had strayed from the safety of Jesus and church and His Word. He got his kids up the next day and marched themselves to church. It was beyond a blessing to see Enrique, Liliana, Diana and Wendy back on the first row. With pathos and tears during the invitation he acknowledged his wayward sin and made vows unto Jesus once again. They have been inviting family and friends and we are so indebted to our Lord for giving them another chance in this life to serve Him and others. Never give up on people, they have their own challenges and their own battles and they are the only ones that can face and fight them. He told me later that for months the precious, patient, blessed, Holy Spirit of God was comfortingly whispering to him to go back into fellowship with the church and he said, yes, yes, I’ll go this Sunday, but never did. And every day the precious comforter whisperingly assured him that all he had to do was go hear the Word of God for strength and power for greater faith.

I lost my phone and bank card for about a couple of weeks and experienced a taste of what life may be like without “the ability to buy or sell or get gain”. Truly scary as I had to make several adjustments to communicate via email and talk to the phone company from other people’s phones and bank and pay with other means which seemed strange and odd. I kind of had to remember how to write checks again. We get so used to “our phones” like they are an extension of our lives, thoughts, minds and even spirits. When I grew up there were only public pay phones or the use of the home phone. Never even thought that we would one day get rid of our home phones and only go mobile, but here we are becoming more and more a part of A.I., wow! In Mexico City,

Missionaries David and Holly Combe,
Mark 11:22

Emmanuel Baptist Church, Longview, Texas * Faith Baptist Church Oak Creek, Wisconsin