

**“Water: can’t live in a home without it!”** There was a group of approximately 250-300 very angry people that gathered not far from our home in April, and they told the local courthouse or “*Alcalde*” officials that they were going to block the main traffic if water was not restored. The officials said, “give us a couple of months and if not then go ahead”. “If not, is right!” They said, “There will be a “*Marcha*” [or a march or Rally] to block traffic with big tractors and dirt trucks”, we were told. And the issue is not only incoming water, as, our home has its own septic tank but most of the homes built within the last 30 years in our neighborhood have an open-air septic system, so, they deal with their waste as best they can as the government has not gotten this far west with sewage lines. Something as trivial and normal as to have one’s waste-water services in order is basic human living 101, but as you all know, we’ve been battling “this issue” almost since our arrival to the west side. Then I remembered Adrian Zarate. A younger man that received Christ as Saviour and was baptized, ‘gotta’ be over 12 years now; that was from an old metal working family in our town of San Bartolo Ameyalco. The Lord told me to look him up and it *just so happens* that he could get our home connected to the original fresh, local, sweet water hole. Please pray.

Our Circle of Influence continues. And you would think that we would be finished giving out Bibles, John and Romans and groceries by now, but here, there are many “*barrancas*” (try to roll your tongue to pronounce the double rr) or small inlet type canyons or valleys on the sides of the hills within our circle of influence. And to build a house on a “*barranca*” is quite dangerous but they make it happen. They start by digging into the solid rock mountainous area and most are built with concrete, sand and gravel with sheet metal roofing. So, when we go down a simple path between 2 houses and follow it, many times it leads to new small mini neighborhoods with anywhere from 10-20-50 small dwellings. We are combing across these roaming hills, like ants, on the east side of the Big Tomato.

Late April 30<sup>th</sup> - May 3<sup>rd</sup>, Holly and I made a run for the border to celebrate our 40<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary. We were able to secure a private cabin near the Big Bend National Park [right on the Rio Grande], and had a **Honeymooner’s Salad, “Lettuce Alone”!** Several Sweet days of reflection [including reading a western paperback out loud]. We shared treasured memories and gave God all the Glory and all the Honor for the ‘minute’ difference our lives have meant for Christ, compared to eternity.

While carrying 2 five gallon jugs up a steep set of concrete stairs, for the meal we give in front of the hospital, I felt something knarl and possibly tear in my lower extremities. An ultra-sound and Dr. Fidel confirmed that I have 2 wonderful hernias. And wouldn’t you know it that statistics show that the most likely age for this to occur in men is between the ages of 61-70, so I’m within the normal limits. HaJa, (TexMex laugh).

I contacted BEAMS BIBLES in Gulfport, Mississippi and asked for 4 boxes of Bibles instead of the 2 that we had been receiving and they said, “Yes! We will supply you with 2 more boxes or 12 more Bibles a month, but we need to raise the added money for shipping (I may soon ask for 6 boxes). **And, as God always supplies**, literally within 28 hours, a pastor in East Texas, contacted us and said, “our church would like to pay for any shipping”. Amen and Amen. There are many willing servants of Christ that God has burdened for the spreading of the Gospel, that now, I dare not, mention by name in our letters, because as Jesus said, they would “have their reward” (Matthew 6). In Mexico City,

David and Holly Combe, Mark 11:22