

THE STEVENS FAMILY

MISSIONARIES TO HONDURAS

January - May 2022 prayer letter



Greetings to all of our co-laborers in Christ from the country of Honduras. I sincerely apologize about the long gap of time since our last letter, but as you will see in this letter, we have been so busy in the ministry, and I simply lost track of how long it has been.

*In February of this year my wife organized a two-day ladies retreat for the ladies of our two churches, along with the ladies from two of the churches that were established by missionaries Mike and Debbie Lane in the mountain communities of Naranjito and Ojo de Agua. The retreat was actually held in the facilities of the church in Ojo de Agua. According to my wife, the ladies and their daughters had a wonderful time and made some long-lasting memories. Now the husbands of the ladies are interested in us having a similar retreat for the men. So, we are praying about possibly organizing that for later this year.



*In March of this year we were made aware of two young girls who went missing from the community where our main church plant is in Quebrada de Lajas. Those girls lived with their grandmother who suffers from some mental issues. It turns out that they were abducted, and the members of our church put out flyers with the girls' pictures all over the community and other nearby communities, and some of our members actually helped the police in a search for the girls that lasted for a few weeks until we received information from someone who saw their pictures as to where they were. The police told us that in all of their years of experience with that kind of situation, they never had a church step up and help in whatever way possible as our church did. We have visited the grandmother numerous times and have given her the Gospel, and we are hoping and praying that she will come to Christ and then come to our church. Her name is Santos.



*In the month of April my wife and I along with another church leader: Brother Lincy, took nineteen of our teenagers to a four-day Christian camp. There were at least nine or ten youth groups represented at the camp from Independent Baptist churches in different parts of the country. The theme of the conference was “Take up your cross,” and our young people had a wonderful time meeting other young people from those other churches and participating in all of the activities. Most importantly though, we are thankful for the doctrinally sound preaching that they received from the word of God.



*Every Tuesday afternoon our church family of the “House of Prayer Baptist Church” in Quebrada de Lajas come together to go evangelizing in the community. Many of the people we come in contact with will welcome us into their home and allow us to present the Gospel to them, but most people here (in our experience at least) understand that coming to Christ in salvation is a serious decision, and they are not rash to make quick professions of faith. We believe in being thorough in presenting the Gospel. Even though we have not seen many professions of faith recently, God has opened up doors for us in the community to have services in peoples’ homes, and the Gospel is always proclaimed, which results in the seed of God’s Word being planted in hearts. We believe that prayer is the key to watering that seed that has been planted, and I always try to encourage our people that even though “we are labourers together with God” (1 Cor. 3:9), and we have specific responsibilities in evangelizing, ultimately, God has to do the saving, or it is all in vain, as the Bible says in (1 Cor. 3:7) – “but God that giveth the increase.”



*The past couple of weeks my wife and I have taken some of the members of our church in the mountain community of Rodeo to go and visit an 89-year-old man from the community named Arcadio. He is a long-time believer in the Lord, and we have had some blessed fellowship visiting with him in his home. He is bed-ridden and very ill, but he seems to get excited when he knows we are coming. Please pray for his family. They have been heavily influenced by Roman Catholicism, and they are ignorant of the true Gospel. Recently however, we had the opportunity to preach to them, and now they are no longer ignorant of the truth. Arcadio's one daughter even told us that she was amazed at how much Arcadio would openly talk to us about the Lord, but then when the Roman Catholic leaders of the community came to talk to him, Arcadio seemed disinterested, and he wouldn't say anything. We have no doubt that the Lord is using that to open up the eyes of Arcadio's family. Again, please pray for them.

*In March we finished our second Bible Institute course on Friday afternoon's titled "Ganando almas para Cristo" (Winning souls for Christ). The members enjoyed the course and learned much from it, and they have been putting into practice the principles they have learned during our church evangelization on Tuesday afternoons. Lord willing, we plan on starting the next course in June of this year.

*In the second week of June this year (June 6th-8th) we plan on having Vacation Bible School for three days. We would appreciate your prayers for that endeavor. Then, in July, Lord willing we will celebrate the 10-year anniversary of our church in Quebrada de Lajas, and we plan on having a two-day conference (Saturday the 2nd and Sunday the 3rd) with some guest preachers and sister churches coming to celebrate with us.

*Finally, I want to give a quick update on our Sunday school/fellowship hall building project. We have only been doing minor work on the building so far this year due to a lack of sufficient funds, but we are praying and trusting that the Lord will provide more funds so that we can continue with the main part of the work, which is to continue plastering the inside of the building; getting the kitchen area set up; putting a tile floor down; and finally installing bathrooms for the men and women. To date we have received \$17,360.00 and the remaining amount of funds that are needed to finish those things for the downstairs portion of the building is \$15,000.00. We would greatly appreciate it if all who read this letter would pray with us that the Lord would supply this need in his time.

Thank you to everyone for your patience. By God's grace, there won't be another delay like this barring some kind of emergency. Lord willing, our next letter will go out in the beginning of August, and will cover our ministry labor from the months of June-July. May the Lord bless each one of you as you serve him where he has placed you.

Our Sending Church:
Christ Independent
Baptist Church
Pastor Victor Rivera
1618 Womrath Street
Philadelphia, PA
19124

Because Christ is Risen (I Cor. 15: 19-20)
Jason, Arlen,
Micaiah, Jeremiah, and Mary Ellen Stevens
John 12: 32- "And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men
unto me."
Missionaries to Honduras

Support Address:
GIBM
P.O. Box 700
Sherman, TX
75091
www.gibf.org