

# THE STEVENS FAMILY

## MISSIONARIES TO HONDURAS

### January 2023 prayer letter



Happy New Year from the Stevens family in Honduras! Our family arrived back to our home in Honduras around 8:00 PM on Wednesday December 28<sup>th</sup>. Everything went well with our flight back, and we so much appreciate everyone who remembered to pray for us.

\*It was a great blessing to be able to visit with my mother and other members of my family for Thanksgiving and Christmas. We cherish those opportunities, because we don't know how many more of them we will have.

\*Another blessing was to be present for the changeover, or passing of the guard service at our home church in Philadelphia, PA, as the Senior pastor (Victor Rivera) stepped down, and the assistant pastor (Michael Peterman) became the next pastor. It was a special blessing for me personally to be present and hear the last message that Victor Rivera was going to preach as pastor of Christ Independent Baptist Church. We would appreciate your prayers for Pastor Peterman and his family, along with the church, as they go forward together serving the Lord, and seeking to lead many more lost souls to Christ in Philadelphia.

\*During our absence Brother Lincy and Brother Neri both did a great job in leading the services and preaching. Sister Mirian and sister Zamary who filled in for my wife's Sunday school class both did a great job as well. What a blessing and peace of mind it is for the missionary to know that the work is in good hands when we have to leave for an appointed period of time. We don't take that for granted, and are very thankful to the Lord for it.



(\* In regards to specific prayer requests, we would greatly appreciate it if all who read this letter would pray with us in regards to the following:

\*First and foremost, as I am sure all of the pastors who read this letter would say, we have a number of goals that we would like our churches to accomplish for the Lord this year. Our goals include getting more of the members involved in having a greater vision and burden for reaching the lost outside of their communities, and we also want to see those who are saved members of the churches take more serious steps in becoming even more faithful disciples of the Lord. We would appreciate your prayers for us in those regards.

Also, I am planning to go, along with some of my assistants (Brother Lincy and Brother Neri), and help Brother Cecilio and Brother Josue (the two men who are the leaders of the mountain churches started by missionaries Mike and Debbie Lane in the communities of Ojo de Agua and Naranjito) to evangelize different mountain communities that have no Gospel witness. There will also be a number of other pastors taking part in this outreach, I believe in February, which will last for a few days. I would greatly appreciate your prayers for that endeavor.

\*As I mentioned in our last letter, we were able to finish most of the downstairs portion of our building project, with the exception of a door and some windows that need to be put in. We are so grateful to the Lord for how he has provided for that project, and we leave it in his hands as to when we can continue with the next phase in the future. Thank you so much to all who have sacrificially given and prayed about this with us.

\*We would ask for prayer for those who serve in leadership positions in our churches. Please continue to pray for Brother Lincy Cordova, and that the Lord would guide Brother Neri and his wife as to his will for them, whether that be to remain in La Esperanza and continue in the ministry with us, or to move closer to where his family lives in another part of the country.



In closing, as we are all in the beginning of a New Year serving our Lord, let's keep in mind the exhortation and encouragement that the Lord gives us in (1 Corinthians 15:58), where the Spirit of God says: "Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord." Wherever we are, regardless of who sees our labour or not; regardless of how little or how much of an impact we think we are making; the inference of what God is saying there, is that if our heart is right, and our labour is being done in sincerity with a pure motive, then it is never in vain. Thank God for that promise and encouragement!

Until next time, our sincere prayer is that the Lord will continue to bless and use each one of you for his honor and glory where he has placed you, and according to the assignment or labour that he has given you to accomplish.



Our Sending Church:  
 Christ Independent  
 Baptist Church  
 Pastor Mike Peterman  
 1618 Womrath Street  
 Philadelphia, PA  
 19124

**Because Christ is Risen (1 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