

"I'M A 'SPEIRA' OF THE LORD OF HOSTS"

Elsa Ramirez - November - December 2001 Prayer Letter

Beloved Prayer Warriors and Supporters—

I'm a 'Speira' Of The Lord Of Hosts!

Speira means "a company of soldiers," but we decided to use it as meaning "a soldier." The Lord has been most gracious to give us the music and the lyrics to express the goals of this Club. After the September 11th attack I have asked myself, if those soldiers of a wicked cause were willing to die, why am I not willing to suffer for my Lord? The English translation of this song is:

Of Christ, my Lord, I'm a soldier,
To suffer willing am I,
The hardships and trials that I must bear,
For willingly He gave His life for me.
But if I tangle myself
In the affairs of this life,
I will never please Him Who's chosen me
To be firm as good soldier here.

Chorus:

I'm a *speira*, of the Lord of Hosts.
In Him I am victorious:
Eternal is His sure reward.
I'm a soldier of the Lord of Hosts.

The weapons of my fierce warfare.
No, never carnal shall be:
But mighty through God to the pulling down
Of strongholds of wickedness in high places;
Down casting imaginations,
And bringing captive my thoughts,
To the obedience of Jesus Christ my God,
The Almighty Lord of Hosts!

My Captain soon will be coming,
I'm waiting for Him today,
While praying and fighting without dismay.
May His grace enable me to say:
"I've finished well my course,
Your will I've joyfully done.
I have fought a good fight,
I've kept the faith.
Your appearing I've loved dear Lord."

This song is being taught to the children of our 12 churches and missions in this area. May God bless and strengthen the life of each youngster.

WORSHIPING GOD WITH THE WORST

"The Untouchable One" is a good name for the "piano" we have at our Church. It truly is a shame to use this beaten instrument to worship the Almighty God! Our youngsters are learning: **"God's work is done with the worst or that which is ready to be thrown in the garbage."** Please pray fervently for a piano!!!

DR SPENCE WILL BE WITH US!

Pastor Benjamín Cortés and I are so grateful to God for granting us the privilege to have Dr. Spence to break the Bread of Life for us in our Church's Seventh Anniversary in January. May God anoint him to proclaim His Word freely among us, and anoint our ears to hear and do accordingly to the truth preached! Oh that God might bring true repentance of sin and brokenness of spirit in my life and the lives of our members. Yes, we desperately need revival!!! Will you fervently pray for us? Please?

THE LORD IS BRINGING THE INCREASE!

God brings many visitors to every worship service. Most of them are our members' relatives. I thank the Lord for our members' faithfulness to boldly witness. Yesterday, I heard Bertha, an ex-Roman Catholic ask the Lord to come into her heart and save her. She seemed to have understood what repentance means. May she grow for His glory! Do you remember Gaby Perdomo, the young mother in whom I invested many teaching hours? She continues faithful to the Lord. My joy is not only to hear them pray the sinner's prayer, but to see them growing in Him and faithful. There is *life* in this young church. Pastor Benjamín Cortés continues rightly dividing the Word of God! Please pray that the Lord might be glorified in the life of each of our members. Pray for strong homes for His glory! As a very special request, Please pray for our young people. They are being tempted and allured with the things and attractions of this evil world. May their parents be strong, yet Biblically loving to guide them. They must see us

adults completely surrendered to God in every area of our lives!

EDGAR AND CAROLINA

This past Saturday, Edgar and Carolina were united in holy matrimony. What a blessing to serve God in this worship service, accompanying the cello and the French horn with the piano. The sermon Pastor preached was for all of us. If he had given an invitation, more than half of the congregation would have gone forward for salvation or for rededication of life. The bride received the Lord in Pastor's office not too long ago. Many unsaved, Roman Catholic people were present, and they seemed to thoroughly enjoy the whole worship service, but specially the sermon. Please pray that this couple might become strong in the Lord and that God might save those who heard, for the first time, the Word preached!

ALICIA LEVIN

I met this lost lady, married to a Jew from Switzerland. She gave me the impression she believed everything I read in the Bible, but at the end she rejected the Lord. I sent her a letter in French. Will you please pray that God might use His Word in my letter, that His Word will not come back void!

ARMIDA

Please, keep on praying for Armida, my next door neighbor. She seems to talk well of me to her relatives and friends. May the Lord bless her and all her family with salvation! Though many a time I have experienced the amazement of lost people as they see Jesus in the life of a Christian. I still stand in owe every time God uses this unworthy vessel to speak to other souls about their need of righteousness. Thank you for your prayers on my behalf. I am convinced that God is working here *because you are praying for us!*

CHARO TORRES

Only because I know God, I did not faint when I heard Charo, the wife of Pedro Torres from Spain, say, "Elsa, the Lord has worked in my heart and now I am willing to go to Foundations Bible College." This family is hoping to go there in June. Her Catholic parents are very sick. "Let the dead bury their dead" I quoted for her. Please fervently pray that the devil may not, in any way stop them from doing God's will!

MONTSE

I have a beautiful picture of my precious Montse's wedding to remind me that all yours and my labor is not in vain in the Lord! She is the Spaniard whom I brought to Foundations Bible College. She graduated, got married and the Lord has given her and her good husband a set of precious twins. Do you remember praying for her for years? Please keep on praying for God's will for this beloved family at this time!

MY NEPHEW HERMANN!

PLEASE, double your prayers for him! His spiritual situation is most critical at this moment! Pray for sanctified wisdom for me to know how to pray for, speak and write to him!

THANK YOU!

I want to take this opportunity to thank each one of you for being so close to me this year with your prayers and your sacrificially giving. God supplied my every need through you. Also, I have never seen so many people coming to the saving knowledge of the Lord as this year! Tired many times, yes, but so very thankful for the privilege undeservedly given to me to serve the Lord in some capacities I never even dreamed of serving Him. This returning to my own country of Mexico has been far more than a tremendous challenge. It has truly been a God-given blessing! And to think that my work here, thank to the Foundations Ministries, is blessing all Latin America and Spain is something that humbles me to no end. I am so glad and thankful to God I submitted to His leading Hand for my life long time ago! Sincerely I say: "There is nothing sweeter than being in God's will!" Please pray that I might finish my life in His will also. My beloved mentor, Dr. O. T. Spence used to say that the most important thing is not how we begin the course, not even how we are running the course now, but how we *finish* it. Will you pray for me?

*May your Christmas and New Year be
Wholly sanctified to His glory!*

Awaiting for Him today,

Elsa C. Ramirez

Your missionary to the Spanish world.

Sending Church:
Bible Baptist Church
2780 Mt. Carmel Rd.
Hampton, GA 30228

My mailing address:
P.O. Box 435281
San Diego, CA 92143-5281
Email: timkh@telnor.net

Working with: World Wide
New Testament Baptist Missions
P.O. Box 725
Kings Mountain, NC 28086