

# "THE YEAR 2003, A YEAR OF PRAYER"

*Elsa Ramirez - January - March 2003 Prayer Letter*

*Beloved Financial and Prayerful Supporters—*

## 2003 A YEAR OF PRAYER

Pastor David Cortés called this year "The Year of Prayer for The Open Door Baptist Church." He also asked me to compose a hymn with this theme. We are averaging between 165 and 200 people every Friday night to pray for 2 to 4 hours without ceasing. "Call Unto Me" is the title of this hymn which quotes the great promise of Jeremiah 33:3 and relates the story of Peter being put in prison under the vigilance of sixteen Roman soldiers to keep him. "BUT PRAYER WAS MADE WITHOUT CEASING OF THE CHURCH UNTO GOD FOR HIM and his chains fell off from his hands," and the 16 guards fell asleep! If our Church humbles herself before God and seeks His face, He will hear from heaven and will sanctify us! Pray that the Word of God contained in this hymn might change lives, starting with mine!

## POOR MISSIONARIES

Long time ago, a member of the Southern Baptist Convention with much compassion told me: "I feel so sorry for you missionaries that have to go from Church to Church raising your support. Our Convention already dedicates some money so our missionaries do not have to do that." "BUT" if you, my beloved churches and friends would not have seen me and heard my burden, how could you pray so fervently to God on my behalf? Many things are happening and I know it is because "PRAYER IS BEING MADE WITHOUT CEASING OF THE CHURCH UNTO GOD!" If you doubt it, just keep on reading this prayer letter!

## IMELDA WAS GLORIOUSLY SAVED!

Was it because I do have a terrific personality and experience or skills? NO! PRAYER was MADE WITHOUT CEASING OF THE CHURCH UNTO GOD! I asked you to pray for this young lawyer who had a 6 yr-old daughter-Alexandra with her first husband. We had several conversations in which, believe it or not, I HEARD, and HEARD her telling me her life story. Last Saturday she came for her first "Bi-

ble study" and she prayed the sinner's prayer! "PRAYER WAS MADE WITHOUT CEASING OF THE CHURCH UNTO GOD FOR HER!" So this young lawyer's chains fell off her hands!

## ALEXANDRA WAS GLORIOUSLY SAVED!

Imelda's 6-year-old very tall girl had a terrible problem with lying. Her mother came to me very discouraged. I gave her some advice from the Word of God about disciplining her child. I also took the girl apart and taught her "PABLO's story." She was converted! Her mother told me the little girl is returning every pencil or gadget she has ever taken from her friends at school and she is extremely careful not to lie again. Her chains have indeed fallen off because PRAYER WAS MADE WITHOUT CEASING OF THE CHURCH UNTO GOD!

## THE LORD MIGHT RAISE MY SUPPORT BY UNEXPECTED MEANS? HA!

IMELDA disagreed with ALVARO her husband about moving to Mexicali from where they came almost 6 months ago. It was difficult for me to teach her to be submissive to her husband because I want her to stay here and mature in the Lord in our Church, I opened the Word to her and taught her submission to her husband's authority. The following night her husband brought up again the controversial subject and was very much surprised as he heard her say, "I will follow you wherever you go." "Why have you changed your mind?" he asked. She said: "My spiritual counselor" told me that." "And who is your spiritual counselor?" "Our neighbor Elsa" she replied. "Well, I must start paying some money to her," he responded laughingly. With tears in her eyes she told me that next morning they embraced for a long time in a very precious manner. "PRAYER WAS MADE WITHOUT CEASING OF THE CHURCH UNTO GOD!" Please pray for ALVARO's salvation and for IMELDA and ALEXANDRA's spiritual growth.

## CHRIST-VIRGINIA'S ANSWER!

A precious young mother of a 9 and a 4-yr-old prayed the sinner's prayer with many tears

in her eyes. She told me she was so depressed she wanted to commit suicide. At the very moment she needed the Savior "PRAYER WAS MADE WITHOUT CEASING OF THE CHURCH UNTO GOD!"

#### **AN EX-JOCKEY IS NOW READING CCCM**

Argelia, a young Mexican mother who lives in the States side was at the verge of losing her family due to her sinful lifestyle. She listened to Pastor Cortés' sermons in tapes on the Family. She obeyed God's Word and changed. Her husband forgave her. The first time the whole family came to Church, I opened my arms and encouraged them to be faithful. Her husband used to be a jockey. So immediately I gave them Dr. H.T. Spence's book: "Confronting Contemporary Christian Music." In one night, they read half of the book! She invited me to her home and as I entered she said: "Please, see every little detail in my home and tell me the things that are not right. She especially took me to the girls room and pointed to some videos. They are so eager to do right!!! They travel many miles to come to Church and cross the border line! But they do not seem to mind. They know they have found the best Church in the San Diego-Tijuana area. "PRAYER WAS MADE WITHOUT CEASING OF THE CHURCH UNTO GOD!"

#### **ZAREMA WAS GLORIOUSLY SAVED!**

This Russian lady has been mentioned several times in my letter. Her father used to be one of the great Generals of Communism who was killed in Perestroika. She is a tremendous piano teacher. Her students always take first places in Vienna, the USA, Mexico and wherever they compete. Recently she was invited for supper at our Mexican President's home. So you can see why she would not humble herself before God. But recently she was near death, God prepared her heart. God also saved SARA, and her daughter ANAI! "PRAYER WAS MADE WITHOUT CEASING OF THE CHURCH UNTO GOD! Their follow up must be so consistent and firm! I NEED YOUR PRAYERS!"

#### **THE CHONG FAMILY READS CCCM**

Mrs Chong, another neighbor confided that while her youngsters listen to some music, her hands perspire and she becomes uncomfortable inside. I gave her Dr. H.T. Spence's book: "Confronting Contemporary Christian Music." Her

oldest son asked me to teach him how to play the piano!!! The lady doctor who lives at my right, told me she is in need of comfort and wants to meet with me on Mondays at your lunch time. Why all of the sudden my neighbors are coming to me for help? "PRAYER WAS MADE WITHOUT CEASING OF THE CHURCH UNTO GOD!" Pray that I may conduct myself wisely!

#### **MY DEAR JOSE ANGEL NEEDS PRAYER!**

This 16 year-old piano student maintains a 4. average at school. Last Saturday he could not play one single piece right. As I asked what was going on, he started crying. Her 14-year-old sister left the home with her "boyfriend." His parents (who have been married before to other parties) fight all the time. And the burden was too heavy for him to bear. As I tried to comfort him with Scripture, I promised him you would pray for him. This Saturday he brought a perfect lesson. "PRAYER WAS MADE WITHOUT CEASING OF THE CHURCH UNTO GOD!" Please keep on praying for this promising pupil. He has already given his life for full time Christian service. I am taking him to the doctor this week because of a painful growth in his knee.

#### **GRISELDA NEEDS DELIVERANCE!**

I have asked you to pray for this lady before. She came to Church with me last week, and told me she went to see a witch doctor, and heard the voice of her grandmother, and others, etc. When I asked her if she wanted to be saved, she gave me the impression as if I was talking to a wall. Please pray for her. She told me her best friend, who died two months ago, visited that witch doctor often. She said that every time she was with her best friend, she - Griselda would become mentally exhausted. To tell you the truth, I do not have peace about visiting her. I only rest in the fact that "PRAYER IS BEING MADE WITHOUT CEASING UNTO GOD ON MY BEHALF!"

#### **HOW CAN I PAY MY DEBT TO YOU?**

By being diligent in depending completely on God for every move I make.

*Very grateful to God for you,  
Elsa A. Ramirez  
Your missionary to Tijuana, México*

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