

"CHOOSE THE MORE EXCELLENT WAY . . ."

Elsa Ramirez - June 2003 Prayer Letter

Beloved Financial and Prayerful Supporters—

THE "CAMERATA"

Is a children's group (ages 4-9 and one 16 year old) of six violins, three cellos, one French horn and four pianists from our Church who played for the first time in public last Sunday. They were taught by Sara (strings), Dante (French horn) and me (piano). Wish you could have seen the 4-year-old violin player marching with the others, carrying his violin under the arm as a true professional. How I praise the Lord for "my children" Sarita and Dante, for they have laid their talents at the Lord's Feet! They confess they feel happier serving the Lord than playing in the "Soloists Orchestra of Baja California." Please pray that they may find and choose God's good and perfect will!

MOTHER'S DAY

Dante and Sarita took me out to eat again for this Mother's Day. They also gave me this card: "You are the Special Guest for this Saturday to celebrate your Birthday at your home (referring to their home)." The card was done in so much taste and love, I cried and cried. Truly I do not deserve all your beautiful cards and gifts. I pray God may repay all you do for me.

MUSIC SCHOOL

Pray about this project. The dream of our Pastor has always been to have a School of Music where our children can learn to play an instrument, voice, etc. Our churches desperately need good musicians to lead this vital ministry. We need musicians whose battle will not be choosing between the right and the wrong kind of music, but, between the very good and the BEST. Choose always "a more excellent way."

JOSE CERVANTES

This is a young talented youngster who wanted to be a computer's engineer, and now, he wants to become a skillful French horn player. Please pray that parents and Pastor and teacher may direct well this young man. The world's applause cannot compare with the Coming Glory for the child of God. The world's

philosophy of mastering a musical instrument is to receive the glory of the whole world and become conceited on one's own accomplishments never recognizing God as the Giver of life and talent! We do not want our children to waste their talents serving this sinful and evil world! Please pray much for us as we continue humbly teaching music.

MUSIC BACKGROUND

As strange as it may sound to you, I studied music in college with the sole purpose of bringing my whole family to Christ. My Mom and the Methodist Bishop had kicked me out of my home and Methodist system as soon as they learned I wanted to give my life to Missions. I knew my family would not even consider coming to my graduation to see "my Christian world." The only way I thought they would come was if I would give a piano recital. We all were trained to love good Classical music. So I studied very hard for only five years, and they all came to my recital. Some of them rejected the Lord, but five members of my family were baptized as a direct consequence of that recital. Thankful to God for allowing me to introduce my family to the Lord Jesus, I left for the Mission field. My work, as you know has been mainly in the process of helping missionary couples to plant churches in different countries by discipling ladies, translating Bible Commentaries, writing doctrinal Sunday School lessons to build the believers. Between visitation, discipling and preparing teaching materials for my coworkers, no much time has been left for music-the needs in that respect have been very small in the past.

A PIANO TEACHER

When I told the Lord "I will do whatever You want me to do" I never thought He would ask me to teach piano. Piano teaching was always the least of my plans. But, when I arrived to Mexico, Pastor Cortés begged me to teach piano and I obeyed. At the outset of my teaching, I wrote a "contract" to be signed by parents and students as well. This explains the philosophy of my teaching and my goal for every student—

"And of some have compassion, making a difference" - Jude 22

to attain a true Christian character, as my mentor Dr. O.T. Spence would say it—"A Christian character is a life based on and ruled by Biblical principles." As of today, I have 17 Christian piano students and 1 next door unsaved neighbor. From the 18, only 3 pay me a small amount. The little or much they have learned, they are already using it for the glory of God in our Mission churches. They are conscious of the great responsibility and challenge before them. Truly, God's will is not only good and perfect, but also sweet. I am the first amazed person to see how much and how deeply I enjoy teaching. I cannot believe this . . . God has been very much at work in my life! Thank you for praying!

TEODORA AND ALBINA

These two mothers heard the Gospel and prayed the sinner's prayer. May the Seed grow and bring much fruit until they become mature in Christ.

MARTHA AND ARACELI

Please pray for her salvation and for her growth. It is also very difficult to meet with them. Please pray!

A COUPLES CONFERENCE AND CHURCH'S ANNIVERSARY

Rev. Benjamín Cortés invited Dr. H. T. Spence, President of Foundations Bible College and Ministries in Dunn, North Carolina and his wife to speak to over 30 couples on June 19-21 and to preach on the 23rd in the Church's Anniversary. The Lord has opened the doors in a nice hotel in Ensenada for these two-day event. How we thank the Lord for this wonderful ministry to these very poor couples. If you would like to sponsor one of them, please send \$170 dollars to my Mission saying it is for the couples's ministry. Above all, remember that your prayers can make a BIG difference!

PASTORS CONFERENCE

Pastor Cortés continues in his vision to help many pastors in México, South America and the States. He has invited Dr. H.T. Spence, President of Foundations Bible College again to come and preach July 14-18 to many more pastors than the fifty he invited last year. Will you pray that God may be glorified in all of this?

MUSIC SEMINAR

Dr. Robert Wilson and Rev. Brian Lowry, both faculty members at Foundations Bible College in Dunn, North Carolina have been invited to minister and teach Music Appreciation, Voice, Choir leading and more in this Pastors Conference. Oh, that many may hear and grasp the heart of this music vital ministry!

A PIANO FOR THE CHURCH

LISA, the owner of the Steinway pianos house is treating me with so much love and care. Recently she gave me two used Spinnet pianos. Many of these pianos are brought to her store in trading for the wonderful Steinways. She promised me 60 more old pianos or as many as I would like as soon as they come in. Can you imagine? Our Church has not have the means to buy a grand piano now; in spite of all the facilities LISA is giving us. PRAY THAT GOD MAY MIRACULOUSLY PROVIDE FOR THE PIANO WE DESPERATELY NEED!

LISA

Has been postponing our luncheon together. I think she is afraid to be confronted with the fact that she is living in sin. She was married for a year to a policeman long time ago. Now she lives with another one. She longs to be married, but this fellow does not give her the green light. Will you pray for her salvation?

JOSÉ ANGEL

Dear prayer warriors please keep on praying for my piano student. A few days ago, some classmates insisted he should get in the car with them. But thank the Lord, he refused! The three had an accident and are now dead! Before, only the fellow classmates would mock him, now even the depraved girls make fun of him in a very vulgar manner. Pray for God's protection for him while he finishes this school year in July. Thank you for praying for his knee, the Dr. said he had the Osgood Schlatter disease typical in young people and assured us that with his growth it will go away.

Once again, thank you for caring so deeply . .

May we always choose the more excellent way,

Elsa A. Ramirez

Your missionary to Tijuana, México

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