

# "THANK YOU FOR PRAYING !!!"

*Elsa Ramirez - July 2003 Prayer Letter*

*Beloved Financial and Prayerful Supporters—*

## **ARACELY**

Two months ago I shared with you about Aracely praying the sinner's prayer and how she confessed, with an apologizing attitude to me, in one of our Bible studies that she still "prayed" to the saints every morning at 5 A.M. for an hour. I shared those precious passages about using vain repetitions, and what idols are made of, and how much they can accomplish, but she did not seem too convinced. This week, with a radiant face, and peace in her heart and without me asking her, she said: "I do not pray to the saints any more; I am not ashamed anymore to be called "sister." One of her daughters celebrated her 15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary while the whole family was in the world. Now the father, who is not a Christian yet, asked the mother: "What are we going to do now for our other daughter's 15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary? He has learned there is a change in their daughters lives, now they cannot have the same celebration. I lent them the video of Lorena's 15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, so they can learn how we Christians thank God for it. Thank you for praying!

## **MARIA AND ROSA**

Heard the Gospel very carefully and prayed the sinner's prayer. They live in a place where there are no names for the streets yet, nor phones. Pray that somehow it might be easy to contact them to help them grow in the Lord. Thank you for praying!

## **ROSIBELL**

Had been indoctrinated by the wife of a JW's pastor. To my surprise, she believed in the Trinity!!! Her teacher was a Roman Catholic catechist for many years before she married. Rosibell was gloriously saved, and next week she came with her husband to the Couple's Conference and to Church for the first time the following Sunday. After hearing Dr. Spence preach on Isaiah 53 he wanted to be saved! Rosibell asked me to speak with him later on— she wanted him to understand it as clearly as she did! I explained to her that we ladies speak to ladies and men with men and that the

ladies and men with men and that the brother that was speaking to her husband would explain the Gospel as clearly as I did to her. He was gloriously saved also! Thank you for praying!

## **SALUSTIA**

What a miracle! A miracle of grace indeed! I have already told you how her husband used to beat her, etc. Yesterday, as I entered their home, her husband was reading the Bible. He is looking for a job now. He gets together with the family to read the Bible and pray three times each day. Yes, you heard right! The rest of the time they listen to sermons in tapes, etc. I could not believe my eyes. The husband goes on visitation with Pastor Tomás every day. If I had not seen this, I would not have believed it. Thank you for praying!

## **EUNICE**

She is a 16 year old piano student. Her Dad is the Principal of our High School. Recently she asked me how could she recognize the wrong music in a CD with songs played with French horn and orchestra. (This was nothing less than one of those productions of our Fundamentalists' camps with "Christian" songs that take the battle out of the music. This kind of garbage is producing not only weak soldiers, but it is doing away with the few soldiers that might still be counted as survivors.) I told her next class we would dedicate part of the time to hear each song and see what is wrong with that worldly music. To my surprise, her Dad came also to this class. You should have seen his face when we explained the contemporary sound and romantic ballad "You Are My Fortress." He said, that does not have anything to do with a Fortress!!! Oh Lord give us song writers who will know how to compose music to strengthen, and never weaken the message of Your Word in our hymns! Please pray!

## **JOSE ANGEL**

Has been called to be a Pastor and recently he was wondering if all his efforts in piano-playing would serve him some day. His Pastor

told him to stop his piano lessons after six months of study. So you can see what we are against here. Though he has learned how to play at least half of the hymns in the hymnal, my poor pupil is asked to play only the same ten hymns every week. And they must be sung at the rhythm and tempo his Pastor sings them. What a joy to explain to Jose Angel that Martin Luther's seminary for pastors would include music training. He himself had a good grasp of music and composed great hymns of the faith as "A Mighty Fortress is Our God." The music of this hymn truly enhances the strong message of its content. I explained to Jose that most pastors now do not know anything about music, and most musicians do not know anything about deep Theology. So pastors are happy to hire a music man who has graduated from a "Christian" university and accept all the garbage this musician brings into their Church. "José if we are now living in perilous times about music, the times when you will be a Pastor will be worse. Would you like to be the kind of Pastor that tells his musicians 'Do not play those chords, nor that sequence, or not this accompaniment because they are biblically wrong for this reason?'" My dream is to send this promising student to Foundations Bible College so he can learn not only the times we live in, but how to recognize the dangers, and knowledgeably fight them. Thank you for praying!

#### **"ONLY ONE FLESH IN HIM"**

The Lord gave me a song which served the Couple's Conference of the small Church and will be the theme song for the Couples' Ministry in the large Church. The words were taken from the Bible, and the music enhances those Words. Thank you for praying!

#### **COUPLE'S CONFERENCE**

Dr. H.T. Spence, in spite of a very short notice, cancelled a previous engagement postponing it to another date in order to make room for my beloved small church pastored by Rev. Benjamin Cortes. And not only that, but he also sponsored one of our very poor couples. They were at the age of divorce, wife beatings, etc. Pastor Benjamin and his wife were blessed seeing this and other couples holding hands during those days. Another couple came to Church after the Conference for the first time in many years. There were 24 couples total. My most recent "babes" Rosibell and "Divine Light" were there with their husbands! Thank you for

there with their husbands! Thank you for investing in the bank of Eternal Values."!

#### **DARIO**

Pastor Benjamín Cortés asked me to play the piano for the Couple's Conference special music. So I have been practicing each week with them. Yesterday I was especially blessed as I found my piano student, Darío, playing the piano and leading a young people's ensemble of eight voices. I almost cried. He was teaching them to sing a hymn he just learned how to play. He is 16-yrs.-old and the young people were his age or older and respected him. My teaching is not in vain! Thank you for praying!

#### **JOSE ANGEL'S UNSOLICITED TESTIMONY**

"Sister Elsa," he said, my teachers at school and everybody else, my parents and others have seen a great change in my life since I study piano with you." "Really, in what sense?" I asked. "I am more responsible and mature in everything now." Thank you for praying!

#### **BRO. SUAREZ**

Is the choir director in a church in Tijuana. I heard his and other invited choirs there. The music was terrible, so contemporary and with the misused theme "Worship and Praise." The Lord gave me the idea of presenting each choir director with a copy of my Spanish translation of Dr. H.T. Spence's "Confronting Contemporary Christian Music" book. Now, Bro. Suárez and his brother (Choir Director in another church) have read the book and have organized a Music workshop where Dr. Spence's book will be the textbook. PLEASE PRAY MIRACLES!!!

#### **CONGRESS PREPARATIONS**

What a joy to see so many members of the Church following their leader—Pastor David Cortés. Every week we are meeting for prayer and for planning the Pastor's Congress next month. We will be hosting over 1000 people from all over México and the USA. We are praying that at least 100 pastors may come! Pray especially during July 14-17. Thank you!

*Thanking God for your faithful prayers,  
Elsa A. Ramirez  
Your missionary to Tijuana, México*

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

**My mailing address:**  
P.O. Box 435281  
San Diego, CA 92143-5281

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