

"SOME PLANT, SOME WATER, BUT..."

Elsa Ramirez - November 2003 Prayer Letter

Beloved Financial and Prayerful Supporters—

CELEBRATING THE TENTH ANNIVERSARY of the "PALABRA VIVA" MISSION

Pastor Benjamín Cortés was the guest speaker at the Living Word Mission. How moved he was before preaching to see his "Timothy", Pastor Angel Ortiz, still a garbage collector, wisely leading his flock made of computer engineers, teachers, etc. The choir memorized and sung a hymn I wrote especially for this occasion. Pastor Benjamín said he was blessed by the words and by looking at the faces of these Christians giving evidence that they meant what they were singing. **GOD HAS TRULY GIVEN THE INCREASE!**

AMALIA

She is a rich, well-dressed lady who raised her hand at the invitation. SALUSTIA, found her crying one night, roaming the streets barefooted and invited her to Church. Since I was in charge of the children that night, someone else dealt with her, so I volunteered to take her home. The more she spoke about her trials, the more I was convinced she was not saved. She came to my lesson on how to explain the Gospel to someone and asked several good questions which greatly enhanced the class. At the end, I asked her if she wanted to truly repent from all her sins and invite the Lord not only as Savior but as the Lord of her life. I explained how vital it was for her to feed on the Word of God, talk to Him in prayer daily, and attend Church every time the door was open to grow in Christ. She prayed after me, but I am very concerned because she takes pills to sleep, pills to wake up and pills to eat. I hope to have planted and will endeavor to water, but please pray that **GOD MAY GIVE THE INCREASE!**

"TEACHING THE ABLE ONES TO TEACH OTHERS ALSO" II Timothy 2:2

You know I love to teach ladies, and God gave me the privilege and blessing to do this in the small and precious "Living Word" Mission. Knowing some of the crucial needs of some ladies there, I started with cultivating an efficient and meaningful daily time with God. Most of

the ladies are very honest in their time with God and our Faithful One has been talking to them intimately as He only can do it. There are clear evidences of this in their lives. **GOD IS GIVING THE INCREASE!**

CONCHITA

Is a lady without any education who can hardly read or write. She has lived with four different men, and by her own words I learned she was the terror of the neighborhood where she grew up. She calls me two or three times during the week to share with me what she is finding in the Word of God and how she is applying it to her life. Humbly she asks me if she is doing her homework correctly. At the beginning, she would write only general applications, but now she is starting to truly apply the Bible to concrete personal sins. Her sister MARTHA, who lives far away from here, is dying of cancer. Conchita is going to visit her and wanted to learn how to give her the Gospel. **GOD IS GIVING THE INCREASE!**

DR. GONZALEZ

José Angel had an infected ingrown toenail and I took him to the "Good Samaritan Baptist Hospital." When Dr. González finished operating on him, he started asking José Angel some unusual questions such as: "Do you love your father?" "How do you show him love?" José Angel and I were puzzled to say the least. Then, Dr. González told us that sixteen years ago, he had a son with his first wife. But after their divorce the envelopes with the money he would send her for his son, started to come back. He looked for his son, but never found him until ten years later—this last May. When he showed us the picture of his son, I was almost in shock, the resemblance with José Angel was incredible! The story and situation are heartbreaking. Dr. was a Methodist, then a Pentecostal and now he is nothing. The Lord gave me Biblical advice for him. But he rejected it preferring to continue in his misery. Will you please pray much for him? May God allow me to truly plant and water the seed, and above all, may **GOD GIVE THE INCREASE!**

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

HOW CAN YOU KNOW I AM NOT A CHRISTIAN?

ZAREMA, my Russian piano teacher contact asked me this question. I simply said: "A true Christian obeys God's Word. You say you read the Word daily but you do not apply it to your life. Right now you just told me that you are not going to forgive these individuals. Christ said that we should forgive seventy times seven." She kept silent. Please pray that I may continue planting in her life constantly, but that **GOD MAY GIVE THE INCREASE!**

HERMANN

My nephew Hermann had become unbearably difficult to live with and would leave his mother crying every morning. So, my brother EDGAR (Hermann's father) had a long overdue talk with his son and told him that if he does not change, he must leave the house. Also, since he is divorced, called MALE my sister-in-law to tell her that as soon as Hermann starts again with his anger and hostility displays, to call him and he will put him out of the house. This is an answer to prayer. Thank you for praying for my nephew. God in His goodness is closing all the doors to lead him to repentance. Please continue to fervently pray that **HE MAY GIVE THE INCREASE!**

SALUSTIA

Her husband has gone from bad to worse! His sin has now reached unbearable heights because he is faithful to Church, but right after the services, as soon as he gets home, he drinks and becomes obscene. Before he would do this when he was not going to Church. Salustia's nine yr-old son ALEJANDRO lives in constant fear. His mother always tells him to close his door with the key because his stepfather "playingly" makes him suffer a lot and humiliates him constantly. Please pray that **GOD MAY GIVE THE INCREASE!**

ALEJANDRO

Alejandro is another José Angel who has given his life for missionary work and is an excellent student at school and at piano playing. José Angel is his and GILBERTO's good piano teacher. Gilberto is Pastor Ortiz' son. One of the reason's why José Angel is teaching piano is because in three more years I dream with sending him to Foundations Bible College to prepare

for the ministry, and his Church will need a piano player. **HE HAS GIVEN THE INCREASE!**

EUNICE

This young 16 yr.-old piano student came yesterday to her class and asked me if I can help her grow in her spiritual life. She is not exactly the best piano student I have, but there is something beautiful in this young life that attracts me a lot. She has also given her life for full time Christian service. She is going to do a devotional diary and we will check it every week, we shall also go together door-to-door. **MAY GOD GIVE THE INCREASE!**

RICKY

Aren't you afraid to live alone? Don't you have a husband, or children? Do you believe in Mother Therese? Don't you believe in the Virgin Mary? Don't you believe in the Virgin that "lives" in Mexico City's cathedral? Don't you take the wafer? Don't you go to mass? How come you look younger than your age? These are the things that puzzle Ricky my 17 yr.-old neighbor and piano student. I have been answering his questions with Bible in hand. **MAY THE LORD GIVE THE INCREASE!**

PASTOR REY

I just came back from SPRINGS OF LIFE CHURCH and must share with you this joy and reality! Pastor Benjamín Cortés, the Pastor of this Church had in his heart to ask the brethren to build a home for Pastor Rey, their first full time missionary in San Luis Río Colorado. This week the foundations will be done and Pastor and four construction workers from this Church will go on the weekends to build the house! As if that was not enough, you should have heard Pastor Rey address the theme of "Sin in the Life of the Christian." My heart was so blessed, God worked in my life tonight. Pastor Benjamin said publicly that God worked in his life also. Brother REY and his dear wife are so humble and grateful. They both recognize they do not deserve anything. **SOME PLANT, SOME WATER, BUT GOD HAS GIVEN THE INCREASE!** Let us bow and worship Him!

Thank you for planting and watering with me in prayer.

Elsa A. Ramirez

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