



Gracias

Prayer Requests

- For the children that will be in Sword of Spirit Club.
- For the new leadership classes that we will be starting this month at the local churches.
- Lord to give us vision of a place for a church.
- For the Lord to provide a truck to haul donations across the border.
- For all of our ministry partners in Piedras Negras.
- For the Lord to bless our finances so that we can accomplish all that the Lord has placed on our hearts to do.

Brian's Blessings

The Blessing of Prayer — *"In the morning, O Lord, You will hear my voice; In the morning I will order my prayer to You and eagerly watch."*
Psalm 5:3 (NASB)

Over the last couple of weeks my life has begun to change in a great and mighty way. No I didn't win a million dollars or figure out the female mind. What I did was to put into practice something I've known all along and even used to practice quite often. I began to get up early in the morning and pray. Don't get me wrong, I prayed every day and in the morning when I would wake up, but by that time everyone in the house would be up and I would get distracted. **My prayer life was in a rut.**

A couple of weeks ago I got a text message from my church announcing that a Korean missionary named David Joshua Paul and his assistant Timothy would be starting a revival. I watched on the internet on Sunday and this elderly man preached about early morning prayer, at 5 am. He began to teach that this is what Jesus Christ did and if we are to be His disciple we should do the same. He taught that this was when Jesus received His orders from God. Where He was to go preach, who He was to cast demons out of, who He was to heal. It was these times early in the morning before the sun came up that He received the power of the Holy Spirit and was daily filled with the Spirit, so He could accomplish what God told Him to do. Prayer and love were and still are Jesus' two greatest weapons against Satan and the powers of darkness, and they can be ours too. We have to follow His example to get His results!! Think about the implications for our families, our friends, our workplaces, our neighbors, our cities, our states, our nations if we would begin to pray as the body of Christ early in the morning like Jesus did. What could be accomplished through our prayers? What is He waiting to do for us? Tune in to www.preparingthewayministries.org—click on **Live Broadcast at 5 a.m.** to get out of your prayer rut!

Melanie's Moments

Bendiciones!! This past month has been one of trials and triumphs. I want to share a story about a girl that I will call "Jewels". I met her a few years ago and she is very quiet and shy. But once you get to know her she will talk your ear off (in Spanish of course) and her personality shines around the young children she serves daily at a local church. She has had many trials in her life over the years. She has a mom who has been told she is "schizophrenia/bi-polar" and she hasn't talked to her biological dad in years and the only dad she had known since she was young died just a few months ago. She like so many people here have heartbreaking stories. Many people here never complain or murmur at all!! They just make the best of their situation!! For "Jewels" she lost several of her teeth several years ago and she never complained!! But as we have been here we have continued to get to know her more and prayed for her personally along with several people from our home church in Dallas. She has suffered through physical pain, emotional pain of peers making fun of her, self image issues and mental suffering because of her lack of teeth. **Thanks to awesome partners like yourself and a team of generous dentists we have been able to give her hope and a smile.** I have spent the last two months taking her to multiple dentist appointments. While we have been in the car we have been laughing, crying, praising God and praying!! Words cannot even begin to describe what "Jewels" has been experiencing. While going through this experience alongside of her, God has been teaching me to depend only on Him even more than I did before. He has helped change my thinking too. I had another missionary tell me a few months ago, "You are about to embark on what can be one of the most maturing and spiritually fulfilling and difficult ventures of your life." **All ministry depends on a miracle!!** However, when we respond to a call to a cross-cultural missionary experience, the demands can even seem more daunting - a new culture, a new language, often complications that we have not created, etc. We have received a call to serve the Lord, and the task of raising support seems **IMPOSSIBLE. Helping Jewels seemed IMPOSSIBLE.. Then we put before the Lord these needs, explained to Him our fears, and asked Him to do what we cannot do ourselves. We learned new aspects of what it means to pray!** God continues to broaden our horizons beyond anything we can imagine and allows us to be part of His plan in many people's lives here in Piedras Negras. If God brings you to it, He will bring you through it! Please pray for the Lord to provide orthodontic care to complete "Jewels" smile. **If you would like to read a testimony from "Jewels" please visit our website.**

Caleb's Corner



I was sitting here thinking about the times where I have been so hungry!! For me it has always been while I have been waiting to eat again that same day! But for many kids here in Mexico it can be they are hungry the majority of the day! It cost \$ to send kids to public school. So for many families they make a choice to provide their child with an education to help them in the future and sacrifice food on the table. My family and I have always helped anyway we could ...bringing food, collecting \$, helping sell stuff to help the several ministries here that feed kids. But one thing I really love doing is help with the ministry at Temple Aleluya! One thing I really like to do is help Mr. Flavio and Mr. Jesus in the workshop at Temple Aleluya! They make crosses and sell them to people all around the United States and Mexico and use that money to help feed the 50-70 children and their parents daily. While they are there they have worship, bible study, and a time of prayer before the children head off to school!

Faith's Favorites

Hello friends, I wanted to share something exciting that happened this month! It was Mexico's Independence Day and Mexico celebrates the whole week before with lots of fiestas. The actual day is on September, 16th, it is alot like the 4th of July in the U.S. except for like everything closes! The week before in the Macro Plaza, where it is like the "State Fair of Texas" they have different traditional kinds of food from all the states in the country. On the night before, September 15th everyone meets up in the plaza and shouts "¡Viva Mexico!" and watches the fireworks. During this fun time I experienced eating churros for the first time. They were hot and had lots of chocolate on them and they were yummy!! We had a big neighborhood block party where everyone in our community brought something. We were treated to some awesome tamales, tostadas, pozole, piñata and lots of sweet treats!! Also, a mechanical bull which Caleb was really good at and a bounce house. It was an all night Fiesta and lots of fun!! That night I met lots of new people that were closer to my age. I was with some of my friends from my neighborhood and a group of the girls asked if I wanted to come visit. I was like "sure". They were a group of 11-15 girls and as we were talking. They included in me their group, even though I don't know enough Spanish to have major conversations with them, they liked to practice their English. The girls call themselves the "OOH..CHALA..MAMA'S(oohh-cha-la-mamas)". I don't know what exactly means but it sure is fun to pronounce...lol They said it doesn't really mean anything!! And I asked some of the translators here and they said it is not real....but just a fun slang! The girls all had a sleepover that night and they invited me. This was special to me because they do not know me at all but made me feel included and not feel like an outsider. It was a huge blessing as I have been praying for some more friends here that are my age to get to know.



To financially support the Smith Family

Please make your support out to: Preparing the Way Church,
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