

THE GONZALEZ FAMILY *El Salvador*

A SMALL COUNTRY, A GREAT MISSION FIELD.

May 1, 2018

Dear Friends,

What a precious word that is—**friends!** God has blessed us in countless ways, and one of the most evident of these is that you are our friends. You pray for us. You inquire about our wellbeing. You help us when we need you to. You are truly one of God's greatest gifts.

Our family has been through a lot in the last two months, and God's grace has been abundant and sufficient. He has showed His love to us and made it evident that we are His beloved children.

On March 10, we had the great joy of welcoming a new member into our family. Megan Juarez married our oldest son Daniel in a beautiful ceremony in their church in Asheboro, North Carolina. Pastor John Shook did an amazing job performing the wedding ceremony, and the church people made the wedding beautiful. What a blessing it is to see our son so happy and to be accepted and loved by Megan's family and their church family. Please pray for them as they attend Candidate School at FBMI this coming Monday, May 7, in Hammond, Indiana. Daniel will be, by the grace of God, a fourth-generation missionary.

Tammie's mother, Mrs. Brenda Ashcraft, had been in a semi-coma for four weeks when, after the wedding, Tammie and Grace flew from North Carolina to Lubbock, Texas, to be with her. On April 1, Easter Sunday morning at 9:32, Mom took her first breath of Heaven's air. What a glorious thought! Mom suffered greatly over the last 15 years of her life. Knowing she is not suffering is of great comfort. When thoughts of despair come, that thought takes over, and peace comes. God's grace is truly sufficient when we look at things with an eternal perspective.

Please be in prayer for Bro. Ashcraft (Dad). He has a busy preaching schedule for the rest of this year. Please pray that his health continues to be good and that he is able to serve the Lord for more years.

We returned home after the funeral with a renewed desire to give our lives for the cause of Christ. There is truly no other way to live but for Him, by Him, and through Him.



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God has allowed us to see 8 people saved personally in the last 2 weeks. Two were family members. One of my cousins passed away, and after the burial, we gave my second cousin a ride home. He and his wife accepted Christ during that ride. The Pentecostal movement here has been an instrument used of the Devil to confuse 50% of the population as far as salvation through faith in Christ. The funeral was held at a Pentecostal church, and it was sickening to hear the pastor speak of works salvation to a brokenhearted family. There is so much more work to be done here. We desperately need help to continue the work here.

Two graduates from our Bible institute (2004 and 2017) have teamed together to start a new work in Jinotega, Nicaragua. It has been thrilling to hear of the wonderful progress they have made in the short three months of ministry there. They have had to move to a new facility and have seen people saved and baptized each week. They have reported an attendance of over 100 in each Sunday morning service. It is amazing what God is doing there! Please pray for the Castro and Ortiz families as they diligently work to carry out the Great Commission as missionaries sent out by our church in Santa Ana. Your sacrificial mission giving is producing much fruit for Jesus.

Please pray for:

- Daniel and Megan, as they start the process of deputation.
- Tommy, as he has the honor to represent Hyles-Anderson College on tour this summer. Please pray that he has good health and that they have safe travels in the Midwestern states.
- Brenda, as she stays in Indiana and works this summer in order to have the necessary funds for school next semester.

Joyfully at His service,

Henry Gonzalez