

The Lanier Family

Missionaries to Arteaga, Mexico

Dear Friends & Supporters, January/February 2011 Prayer & News Letter

As I begin to write this prayer letter on February 23rd, 2011 I can't find adequate words to express our gratitude towards

God for what He has performed here in Mexico over the last 3 months. We arrived in early December planning on continuing our Bible studies and formal Sunday morning services for 2 months, but God changed everything. Instead, as a **true and real revival** broke out in Arteaga, Mexico, we opened a **mid-week service**, continued the **in-home Bible studies** and started a **church-wide soul-winning/visitation program**. As The Lord worked on the hearts of our dear Mexican people He also worked on the hearts of several pastors and churches in the United States, impressing on their hearts to begin supporting us monthly in prayer and finances! We attribute the great work of God to the faithful prayers of our friends and supporters in the US and here in Mexico. That being said, our **support miraculously went up 20%** in the months of December, January and February. As a result, and after prayer, we felt it was not God's will for us to return to deputation in the US in January and February, but to stay and continue to take part in the revival here in Arteaga. We were able to cancel meetings very far away from Mexico and keep meetings that we have close by, starting in March.

The first Sunday of January was a great victory for Jesus Christ. We had great attendance and **3 adults saved!** One of the adults that received Christ was a 68-year-old violent drunk. Since being saved, he hasn't drank liquor, said a bad word or beat his wife! Directly after this victorious Sunday, however, the devil sent wolves to do harm to the sheep. Two families began talking critically of me, my family, the church and the work that God was doing in our midst. I had to publicly rebuke the father of one of the families, and the mother of the other family made them quit coming altogether for several weeks without my help. We went through a difficult 3 weeks in January after all of this with no one getting saved and attendance dropping from an average of 40 on Sunday morning to an average of 12. The ravenous wolves, having received their fill, went back to hiding.

The next Sunday, before starting the service I called for all of the adults to come to the altar for a season of prayer for the wolves to get right and the church to be edified. There was much weeping and begging of God until The Spirit of God came down and met with us and comforted us. The following Wednesday, I set chairs by the pulpit for the wounded families as a reminder for everyone to pray that God would work everything out and bring them back to church. After several weeks of prayer, all of the chairs were put back into their regular place with all of the families back in their place!

After that trial, the church came out stronger and purified. One Sunday morning, a prostitute came to the church looking for something, mistakenly thinking that turning over a new leaf would bring her peace. During the invitation, she came weeping to the altar, begging me to show her how she could be saved! The next day, another visitor who had been their on that Sunday came to me and tearfully informed me that she couldn't sleep the night before because she knew she was going to hell for rejecting Christ and not getting saved the day before. She joyfully received Christ and her burden was lifted!

February 13th was "Día de Vaquero," "Cowboy Day." We spent a **month in prayer** and couple days before **canvassing** and inviting folks to come dressed up in "Cowboy/Cowgirl" clothes for a church service. We expected and prepared for 50-60 people to come, but instead 135 came! I preached on "The Rodeo of Jesus Christ," about the rapture of the church and all total, 12 people were saved! The total amount of people saved in January and February is 18!



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We have been privileged to distribute also Bibles, Tracts. and John/Romans to national pastors from the big city these 3 months, provided by Bro. Paul Deem of Directline Ministry. We also hosted a wedding and church anniversary

service for another national pastor who is pastoring 2 churches. On Thursday February 17th, we took 2 families from the church with us for a service in the big city where I was invited to preach.

Send Support to:

Madison Baptist Church 840 Balch Rd

Madison, AL 35758

Make Checks Payable to: MBC World Missions (For/Memo~Chris Lanier)

Our plan is to do 8 weeks more of deputation through the months of March and April to raise the rest of our support. Lord willing, we'll be able to return by May and hit the ground running again, and for Christopher Charles to be born here in Mexico sometime in June. He is doing very well, thank The Lord. We can't wait to officially open the church and see what God can do!

NEEDS: Spiritual growth of new believers, Safety, Support, 15 passenger van, \$\$ for a new roof for the church, \$\$ to build a baptistery (total \$5000)

Por las almas perdidas de México, Missionary Chris Lanier & Family John 20:21 **CONTACT INFO**

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