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October 2024

Dear Brethren,

Our trip's first meeting on Sunday morning, September 8, was with Dr. Brad Davis and the good people of the Antioch Baptist Church of Bristol, VA. We thank God for this church and Bro. Brad, who consistently and lovingly lend us one of their church vans to do our deputation work with the national missionaries. And this time, since the mission house where we usually stay when we're in the Bristol area was not available, the church provided for us lodging at a local motel until we started our trek to PA on the following Monday. PRAISE THE LORD FOR BRO. BRAD AND THE FOLKS AT ANTIOCH!!

In the evening service we were at the Good Shepherd Baptist Church of Kingsport, TN with Pastor Robert Fletcher. Bros. Pech and Corrales were able to present their ministries and challenge the congregation. This is a very special church to us, in that they support several of our national missionaries and have helped greatly in various projects on the field. This church is unique in their deep love for missionaries and the work of missions.

We praise the Lord for the National GPA Camp Meeting we attended from September 8-13 in Nottingham, PA. The national missionaries present were Guillermo Rojas from Costa Rica, Luis Corrales from Venezuela, and Alfredo Pech from Mexico. During the conference I taught three special sessions on the topics of Ethics, Delegation, and Multiplication. An additional three sessions were taught concerning end-time events and the soon return of our Savior. This was all done to show the urgency of the hour in getting out the gospel.

After the conference, we were in Greenville, SC in a series of deputation meetings with Bros. Pech, Rojas, and Corrales. The meetings went very well, and the people were so kind. Besides the church meetings, we had the opportunity to speak in the chapel hour at the Tabernacle Baptist College, and afterwards in a Missions class taught by my long-time friend and professor Ron Gatlin. We challenged the students with a call to world evangelism and missions, then opened the session up for questions. It was such a challenge and blessing for us to minister to these young preachers and future missionaries.

My stay in Greenville with the missionaries was cut short due to my heart-felt need to return to Tampa to be there for my wife Nancy. Through our communication back and forth during my days away, I could sense that her physical condition having to do with symptoms of amyloidosis and her ongoing bout with Neuropathy, affecting the nerves in her legs, was not getting any better. I had almost decided not make the deputation trip in the beginning, but due to Nancy's assurance that she would be okay, plus the men's need for my presence on this trip, I decided to

proceed with my plans. But one night as I was doing my daily walk around the gym where we were staying, I broke down and said, "Lord, I've got to get home to Nancy." So, even though the hour was late, I got on the phone with American Airlines and was able to book a flight for the very next day. The Lord opened the door and made a way for me to be home the following night. GLORY TO GOD. The men were able to do just fine with the rest of their meetings, since Bros. Rojas and Corrales do pretty well with their English, especially Bro. Rojas who interpreted for Bros. Pech and Corrales. And their transportation back home or to their next stopping place was all taken care of. It all worked out perfectly. GOD IS GOOD.

SPECIAL NOTE. If I hadn't have come home at that specific time, I would not have been able to make my return flight scheduled for the following week, due to Hurricane Helene. I hadn't realized that, but God did. PRAISE THE LORD.

Our next assignment is with Alex Araya of Costa Rica for church meetings in Naples and Bradenton, FL scheduled for Sunday, October 20. Our original plans were to be in Nokesville, VA (DC area), but due to my being on the road just recently away from Nancy, plus the costliness of the airfares (\$700 just to fly roundtrip to Bristol, VA) I decided to let Bro. Alex handle those meetings by himself, since he does well with his English. Then I would join him when he comes to Florida once he finishes his work in the PA and VA areas. But now, due to the terrible onslaught of Hurricane Milton and what damage it could leave, there may be a question whether or not we can keep that schedule.

Pray for us all here. We are evacuating our home today to go to Plant City, about 20-25 minutes away, to stay with our daughter Mareda during the storm, which is due to hit Wednesday night and Thursday. We are praying that no trees will fall on our house or that any damage to the house itself will occur. The storm surge is supposed to be double that of Hurricane Helene. We are placing sandbags in the vulnerable areas of our home where water may enter. We are claiming the promises of God as laid out in Psalm 46.

Pray for Nancy's health. Her cardiologist said at her appointment last Thursday that at this point he didn't think the diagnosis was amyloidosis, and that her heart was good. Nancy seems to be doing well at this stage. This was a direct answer to prayer. GLORY TO GOD. Please continue to pray for her, and pray for us and our families during this powerful storm that is soon to hit.

We love you all and appreciate your support and prayers.

For His Glory,

Bro. Carl

Bro. Carl, GPA Luke 19:10