

LIGHTHOUSE HOLINESS MINISTRIES

Ministering in the prisons of Mexico - Our corner of "God's Field" - July 2019

Greetings from our corner of the Lord's field!

(First a testimony given to us on the back of an inmate's Bible study)

Hatred Conquered by the Grace of God!

"Every day that passes since the first day that God drew me near to you all to read and to understand the Holy Bible, my anger and hatred towards people who falsely accused me has been forgotten little by little.

I do not have the words to thank you for your valuable support. Saying 'Thank you' doesn't seem to be sufficient, but I do thank you so much. May God richly bless you all always.

Thank you very much from the bottom of my heart for the wonderful study Bible that you gave to me.

Respectfully, His Servant" - Ángel G. A.

It is always a joy to receive small testimonies like this from inmates as we see the changes that Christ makes in their lives. It is a long story, but we have no doubt that Ángel truly had been falsely accused. Over the years, we have met many who were, and it is sad when we grasp the reality that there is nothing that we can do legally to right their situations. Mexico has a Napoleonic judicial system which considers one to be guilty until he proves himself innocent. That is often a very difficult thing to do.

Inside the prison, Ángel was kept in solitary confinement by members of the Gulf Cartel for over a year! However, as a token of respect towards our ministry, the cartel permitted Manuel, the facilitator of our Bible studies within the prison, to deliver the studies to Ángel. He surrendered his life to the Lord and was wonderfully saved! Day by day his faith and trust in God grew.

After a year, one day Manuel was delivering Ángel's study and found him very distraught. He was tired of being isolated and longed to be released into the general population. Manuel spoke to him about pouring his heart out to God and bringing his petition before the throne of God. They prayed.

It just so happened that Ángel was the one who received the highest score for that cycle of studies. He would be awarded a "Vida Plena" (Full Life Study Bible) from us the following week. As Manuel went to deliver the Bible to him, he learned that Ángel had been released into the general population! On his way to the cellblock with the Bible, he saw Ángel who broke down crying, telling Manuel that the cartel had released him the day after they prayed! When Manuel presented him with the Bible for having the highest score Ángel fell to the sidewalk weeping and praising God!

Ángel is doing great with his studies and it is amazing to see week by week how his faith has grown. We have no doubt that God's hand is upon this man and that he will do a wonderful work for the Lord upon his release.



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Laying First Block for “Cueva de Adulam”



I am not by any means a builder or contractor, but I was honored a few weeks ago to lay the first block for the “Cueva de Adulam.” This is a church being pioneered by Bro. Miguel Iglesias. Bro. Miguel was the inmate pastor in the Reynosa prison for many years prior to his release, and he is now erecting a building in Mission, Texas, for the church he has pioneered. For the past few years, they have been holding services under a tent which was donated by Bro. Larry Landress. The Lord has blessed abundantly and now the cinderblock walls are going up!

First Time in over 20 Years Five Win Study Bible!

It is difficult to explain what a truly phenomenal accomplishment this was. This particular course of studies covered 16 exams (Nehemiah through Job) consisting of 40 questions per exam for a grand total of 640 questions. The questions on every exam have different grade point values. For the first time in over 20 years, after working on a series of studies for 4 months, five men in the group scored within 0.53 of a point of each other - between 98.88 - 98.35! The one with the highest average always receives a study Bible and if there happens to be someone who scores within 0.5 of a point of the highest scorer, we usually give that person a Bible as well. In this case 4 men scored within 0.5 of 1 point of each other! And we didn't have the heart to deny the fifth one a Bible for 0.03 of a point! We are really proud of these men for their perseverance and efforts in studying God's Word!

Prison staff took pictures of all five men receiving their Bibles, but the picture quality was too poor to be usable. Replacement pictures had to be taken.



(Left to Right)

Serapio
Augustin Jaime
Jesé Luis
Jesús Lara

The picture of Ricardo Benavides is not available.

Presently 121 inmates are faithfully doing their studies in the prisons of Reynosa and Matamoros. Please remember these men and women in your prayers. Bro. Serapio (far left) will soon become the new pastor in the Reynosa prison because Pastor Jaime A. will be gaining his freedom. Once released, Bro. Jaime plans to continue ministry in Rio Bravo, Mexico.

Brenda and I want to take this opportunity to thank each and every one of you for your continued faithful prayers and support. We count it a privilege to be able to serve the Lord in this capacity and your assistance makes it possible. We are seeing the Lord do marvelous things among these men and women, and we give Him all the praise. Please remember to hold up these men and women, as well as us, in your prayers.

Gary and Brenda Morgan