

LIGHTHOUSE HOLINESS MINISTRIES

Ministering in the Prisons of Mexico — Our Corner of God's Field

January 2020

Greetings from our corner of the Lord's field!

We have so much for which to be thankful. This past year has brought us back in contact with some former inmates, and it has been a joy to see how they are continuing on in the ministry of the Lord!

Shaolin and Beatrice



For safety concerns due to Shaolin's former life we will not reveal his present location, but it was a pleasure for Bro. Tyrone Gheen and me to have recently visited him and his wife. Chao (Shaolin) had been a member of the ZETA cartel before surrendering his life to the Lord. Now, he and his wife have devoted themselves to ministering in the local prison and several Anexos (Drug Rehabilitation Centers). While with them, I had the privilege of ministering in that prison as well as one of the Anexos. It thrilled our hearts to see their burden in ministry and the impact that they are having on many lives for the Lord!

Javier Blanco



Javier has been such a blessing! Just a few days ago he gained his release after enduring a two year nightmare. During his incarceration, he surrendered his life to the Lord, faithfully completed Bible studies, and accepted the Lord's call upon his life for the ministry. Throughout the two years he spent in prison, he had never been found guilty nor sentenced. After two years of incarceration, he was finally exonerated of all charges brought against him and released. One can only imagine the struggle to keep from being bitter! It is hard to describe a system where you are presumed guilty until you prove your innocence, but suffice it to say we have seen many sad cases over the years.

Javier is an anointed fireball of a preacher and many doors are being opened to him for ministry. In the photos above, he is ministering in a church in Matamoros and giving his testimony over the radio.

Mario Alberto Chávez



I had lost contact with Mario (center) after his release five years ago. To my surprise, recently he came back to visit the prison while I was ministering there. He knew that I would be preaching that day. He wanted to talk with me and let me know what was going on in his life. He is continuing on in ministry outside the prison, as well as now returning to the prison on a regular basis. He told me that he wanted "to help others as we had helped him!"

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Jonery Vizuet Hernández

Jonery's story is a very sad one to relate and even sadder when you hear her tell it. Her life had been filled with abuse, heartache and degradation from the early years.

Jonery was reared by her mother and grandmother who both were prostitutes. At the age of fourteen, she left home to live with a man in his thirties. Sadly, what she thought was the beginning of a love story very quickly turned into a horror story. She suffered mercilessly at the hands of an angry man until the birth of a baby boy. Though love wasn't in the forefront of their relationship, the beatings stopped due to her boyfriend's affection for their son. However, a little over a year later the child died and the beatings resumed for a few years until the birth of twin little girls.

The little girls grew, and the beatings continued. However, the beatings increased in scope; not only was Jonery beaten but his daughters were as well. The girls were beaten and abused by their father in ways that we will not discuss in this letter. Jonery could take no more so at the age of 23, she left.

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{Jonery preaching a Convention in the Yucatan)



(Pedro Rodríguez and his wife. Jonery in the center)

Things didn't get any easier for her. For months she tried to find work but was unsuccessful. She scoured the streets daily trying to find a means to provide for her girls who constantly cried with hunger. She reached the bottom of the pit of despair, and after a failed attempt at suicide, she did the only thing that she knew to do. In desperation she sold herself in a house of prostitution in Mexico City. After all, it was good enough for both her mother and grandmother; or so she thought. Yet, for over a year she cried herself to sleep every night suffering the agony and shame of her lifestyle. Then the father who had been a police officer ran afoul of the law and was incarcerated. One day this Catholic young lady received a call from the twins' father who was calling from prison. He was crying and begging her to return. He told her how he had found Christ and was a changed man. He said that the love of Christ would never allow him to abuse her or the children again, and he convinced her to return.

Having never heard a Gospel message before, she began to attend the daily prison services. Then one day during a prison service, Jonery poured her heart out before the Lord for over three hours and arose from the altar as a new creation! That was when I first met Jonery. She began the Bible Studies, and for the next couple of years, she completed them faithfully and was one of the top students. God then placed His call upon her life.

After having surrendered her heart to the Lord, she married the twins' father. I was "Padrino" of the wedding. However, unbeknownst to me, she soon discovered that she had been deceived by her husband. He publicly presented himself as a godly man, but things were not as they appeared. Soon he gained his release and things only grew worse. The beatings and abuse returned with even greater fervor. He eventually moved in with another woman and Jonery and the kids returned to Vera Cruz.

For many, such experiences would be so devastating that they would just give up, but she has only grown stronger in the Lord. In her heart she has forgiven her husband, though the daughters understandably are still struggling. Jonery is carrying her testimony of God's deliverance and the power of the Gospel throughout Mexico as the Lord keeps opening doors for her to minister.

Pedro Rodríguez

Pedro Rodriguez was an inmate in the prison in Matamoros for several years. It was there that he heard the Gospel message and surrendered his life to the Lord. After his release, I had lost contact with Pedro until recently he sought me out to inquire about obtaining our Bible studies. He had been faithful to do them while incarcerated, but he decided now that he is pastoring, he wanted his church to do them. He also carries them to the prison in La Mérida where he ministers as well!

It seems like every few months we are sending out complete sets of the studies to another church somewhere in Mexico; another church that is being pastored by an inmate who received the Lord and participated in the studies while in prison. Recently the Lord has shown us many "children and grandchildren" that we have gained in the Gospel. Every time that our hearts get discouraged, the Lord brings us into contact with another former inmate still carrying on for Him! It is a joy to serve Him!

Testimony of Pedro Sánchez

It really lifts us up to periodically receive these testimonies written on the back of the studies. Here is one that we hope you enjoy!

"First of all I would like to give thanks to God for these studies. I want to take advantage of them very well applying them to myself in order to be able to help others that also need the Word of God. Thanks to you all for sending them to me. They are very important to me because every verse that I read from the Bible is great Spiritual nourishment to me and keeps me firm in the faith of our Lord Jesus Christ now that God is first for me.

Above all things I believe that if the Lord is carrying me I would be most happy because I know where I am going! If I die it is for Him! If I live it is for Him! Since Christ gave His life for me I want to serve Him! I know that I am a debtor to Him because of His sacrifice. Greetings to all the family of God. To Him be the glory for all ages!"

Pedro Sánchez

Thanks For Your Continued Prayers and Support!

I will never forget being asked by a well meaning minister a few years ago at a Missions function: "Bro. Morgan, do you REALLY see men and women's lives changed in these Mexican prisons?" I was stunned! A man of God was actually asking me if men and women in the prisons truly get saved!

Those that are mentioned in this issue of the newsletter are doing wonderful works for the Lord! Each one of these ministries was birthed out of a Mexican prison. I know each one of them personally. I was there when they got saved; I carried Bible Studies to them; I have seen them blossom and grow in the Lord! Every one of these ministers is worthy of your prayers, and should you desire to do so they are worthy of your support! Should the Lord lay any of them upon your heart we would be more than happy to talk with you about them and to give further details on how you can support them.

Words cannot express our gratitude for all the prayers and financial support we have received over the years. You have allowed us to continue ministering in Mexico's prisons. Only eternity will truly reveal all the lives that have been changed by God's Word being carried into and ultimately out from these prisons walls. We fully understand that we could not continue this work without you. We take great joy in knowing, that together, we will all reap the rewards in that final day.

Please continue to remember us and this work in your prayers.

From our corner of "His" field,

Gary, Brenda and

Joey Morgan

continued