

THE CERNAS NEWSLETTER



October 2020

Dear praying friends:

With much thankfulness, we are happy to communicate that the quarantine in El Salvador is officially over. God has allowed us to survive this with great enthusiasm for Him, and His work. Obviously, we are better able to minister to our people. Also, God has used the pandemic to bring repentance to some believers that were out of God's will.

About seven years ago, the Lord brought Rina Zaldaña and her four sons from San Miguel to our city of Santa Ana. They left San Miguel because the father (Ernesto) was killed by an extortioner. We knew this family quite well from our time (2006-2008) in San Miguel. Rina has been very involved in our church since she came. However, her two oldest sons (Luis and David) have been out of God's will for many years. We are thankful to tell you that Luis has rededicated his life to Christ. Over the past two months he has stopped drinking, been reconciled with his wife, and he comes to our house once a week to pray and meditate on Scripture. It has been a complete answer to prayer. We also believe that it is only a matter of time before the Lord does the same work in David. Please pray for them, and for Luis' wife (Verenice), who has not yet been born again.

Also, about two months ago, one of our church couples (José and Marlene) who were having marital issues, called me to their house. Marlene hasn't wanted to grow much as a Christian since we've known her. By God's grace they both realized where they were failing in their marriage. So, we all prayed that day, recognizing the importance of God's Word in their lives. Over the past several weeks that I've been following up on them, I have noticed a difference. Their son Mauricio (who is the other pastor of our church) has noticed a difference in them as well. Please pray that their marriage would even be an example to other marriages, especially in the church.

By God's grace, we started having physical services the last four weeks. It has been a great blessing, as the attendance is better now than before the pandemic! There seems to be a renewed spirit within the members as a result of the quarantine. The Lord is bringing in unsaved visitors to the church as a result of some of the members' testimonies. Many of them are naturally sharing Christ with others, even though we hadn't been able to go out evangelizing as a church. Please pray for the Lord to keep opening doors, bringing repentance to both saved and unsaved.

Last prayer letter, we mentioned an unsaved man, Jose, that had Coronavirus. His family came to our first physical service, and shared with us that he was healed from the illness. However, since then, he has suffered many side effects from the virus. As a result, he had gall bladder surgery the following week. We are thankful to report that he has greatly improved since then. Although side effects are still an issue, his family is grateful that he is doing better. Please continue to pray for his salvation.

Our family has never been healthier. Six months of quarantine were very good for our health. We have never had such a long period of time without even a cold. However, we were more than ready to get out of the house and see our church people again. It's been encouraging to see how our kids have grown in quarantine, and how some of our church people have also grown. Although it was not something we would have chosen, we are seeing great results from that difficult time. Thank you for your faithful prayers and support.

The Cernas