

THE CERNA FAMILY

MISSIONARIES IN EL SALVADOR

August 2022

Dear Praying friends,

As always, we are grateful to God for many things. In Exodus 23:20, God promises to Israel (and to us) that He would go before them, protecting them along the way, and ultimately taking them to Canaan (the abundant life in Christ). Even though the enemy does his best to discourage us, to try to lead us to quit, we are ever excited about God's promises. He has us where He wants us, and (according to John 15:16) this will lead to bringing forth fruit.

In our last prayer letter, I mentioned how I've been walking around my neighborhood (for about 30 minutes, five times per week) with the hope of witnessing to others for Christ. Just this past week has been a huge blessing. The last five times I have gone out, the Lord has allowed me to share the Gospel with someone. In many cases, the people are open to hearing. On average, I'll spend about 10-15 minutes preaching Christ to them. The door is clearly open for people to hear the message of salvation. Please pray that I could continue to follow the Holy Spirit's guidance and that He would bring conviction to the lost.

By God's grace, I continue to meet with Miguel Zaldana about once a week. He is the young man who, aside from being the first in his family to go to college, wants to be faithful to God. He was able to complete successfully his first semester. His example seems to be touching the hearts of his brothers (Luis and David). In fact, Luis has been coming more faithfully to church as of late. Even David has come a couple of times also.

The Zaldana family has been part of our church for about ten years. When their father was killed (in San Miguel) ten years ago, they decided to move to Santa Ana. The mother (Rina) has also expressed a desire to be more faithful to the Lord. She has been meeting with Christine about once every two weeks for advice and encouragement. In fact, the last time they met, Rina brought along Michelle (the mother of David's baby) with her. Please pray for this family, and for us (in having wisdom and patience to minister to them). They have faced much adversity, and they have made many mistakes. However, we can see that the Lord has His hand on them, and He'll finish what He started in them.

During the Pandemic, we switched our kids to the American school schedule and began homeschooling. This means that on August 2, Rosa began her senior year, Caleb began eighth grade, and Joshua began sixth grade. As we mentioned in a previous letter, Rosa spent the summer working in the States. She will be back with us in El Salvador on August 26, and we couldn't be more excited. Please pray for her as she decides on a college for next fall. Please pray that this is a good school year for all three of our kids. We thank you for your prayers for our family and ministry.

Steve Cerna

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