

Report of Medical Mission 2015 (w/o the photos)

Dear Brothers in Christ,

It's been a few months in which we have had different events that have helped us grow spiritually, to renew our spirit and tests to strengthen us even more.

Not everything has been good. We have been through some situations in the church that I consider are trials by fire from God prove our faith. The past year I had different disagreeable experiences, but we know that the enemy doesn't rest and even less when people are working in the Lord's work.

Other news is good – we had 3 baptisms, visitors and some events within the congregation, some celebrations with our children and fellowship.

We have some events in the door [started], an evangelical campaign in August, and studies with brothers who have walked away from the church.

Below I'll share some details and some pictures about what's gone on in the Monte Kristal congregation.

Sunday worship, baptism, and fellowship

We have had some neighbors visit; we have invited them every Sunday, recognizing that we are those who sow the seed and God gives the growth. As you well know, Monte Kristal is an area with many conflicts and some of the brothers have had difficult fights to overcome the life they led before becoming members; they are tested and we pray for them to emerge winners against these fights.

We have had some difficult cases with young people who engaged in drug trafficking, who are dependent on drugs, and who try to get attention in various ways. We trust in God that He will give us wisdom to help them and to make of them men who work for and fight for the Lord.

We continue helping the congregation, participating in some activities such as visiting with brothers who have walked away, children's classes, support of other congregations of the Church of Christ in Monterrey.

I feel very blessed that my youngest son has shared with me his desire to work in preaching. It has worked and we have prayed to God that it continues. He is 16 years old and God has put it into his heart to support me and collaborate with the Monte Kristal congregation, in which you all well know there is great spiritual need. Thanks be to God for putting in my son Jefte's heart the desire and longing to preach His word; I ask for your prayers that this fire God has put into his heart never turns off and continues burning to show the light to those who have need of spiritual support and to those God has called to his path, not only through preaching but also his life as an example.

We know that today in Mexico it's difficult to sustain economically a professional career. My medical studies were through an academic grant, but today it's even more complicated due to the situation in our country. Actually my son decided to study medicine as well as being a servant. I don't know yet if we will be able to support him in all the payments, but I have confidence and certainty in our God that if His desire is to help others thru his medical career, He will provide the support that is needed. I'm very proud to know that he has decided to study medicine because to me it's a career in which God gives us the opportunity to help and to serve, to give support and help the people; but I'm even more proud that he's decided to dedicate his life to preaching and helping others. I ask for your prayers that God strengthens and blesses him for we know what a difficult age adolescence is.

We have had different activities, fellowships with the same congregation. Each family brings foods to share; the local get-together or fellowship happens the first Sunday of the month. Sometimes we take advantage of children's birthday celebrations to share a good time and cake for everyone.

Finally I share with you all some of our brothers and sisters after a visit from brothers from Colombia who attended the meeting of Ibero-American workers that took place here in Monterrey.

Evangelical Campaign

In August we are planning to hold an evangelical campaign with the support of some brother preachers from the Monterrey area. We are supporting Brother Santiago with the organization. To be able to carry out this activity, we are planning Bible leaflets and singing classes as soon as we get the pictures.

Tests

In November my wife and I were in an accident. It was a Monday and we were going to direct the clean-up of the clinic's land. Because of the rain the bushes had grown a lot and we needed to cut the weeds. A neighbor loaned us a lawnmower, but unfortunately we couldn't get there – we had an accident with our truck. My wife and I weren't hurt badly, only muscle aches; the problem was the truck didn't have insurance because it's hard to pay the cost [premium] each month. The damage to the other truck was paid for with the help of some brothers who wanted to help us out in this difficult situation, but our truck sustained major damage and we cannot use it because the repairs would cost about \$2,000. We understand that as God gave us this means of travel and it's something material, God decided to remove it and whatever the reason we understand.

As you well know the streets in Monte Kristal still aren't paved and during rainy times access is difficult, but that has not stopped attending and preaching the word of God. The taxis and buses leave us far from the church so we have to walk about a kilometer. God somehow permitted this situation and we accept it if it's His will. It's been difficult because of the climate and bad pavement making walking hard. But to God be the glory that we have feet, desire and health to continue forward and together with my family we have continued this ministry.

Some activities that we carry out is [one is] the cleaning of the land. It's difficult because it's a large area that requires care and maintenance. We have taken on the responsibility and down the road we will assign teams of families that help us in these activities.

I would like to share more photos of the work, but the camera that I used to take the pictures has quit working. My daughter took some pictures for the report, and when I get those I'll send them.

We continue the work of medical consultation, with difficult situations and those of deficiency, but we continue in this work that's more than providing drugs, also consultation and evangelizing. We have had some lamentable cases – one happened with a man who visited us in the aforementioned clinic and had problems with his family; we were told that he died at the hands of his own son. That made us very sad, me particularly since I knew him and we'd talked to him about the Gospel.

Each week we see different stories and situations, some very sad and some very difficult to bear because our medication is more than physical, it's also spiritual to share the Word of God.

In July we want to hold the medical campaign in la Huasteca Potosina. Together with this report I've sent the formal request to get your comments. I have talked with Brother Inocente de la Cruz and we've talked with happiness because we expect many people in those places. We want to know if we will have this year the economic support to hold it. We are already preparing material for the children and some small gifts for them. If this support has been allocated, I thank you and will share your answer to confirm the date with our Brother Inocente.

We continue thanking you for your prayers, your love, and your help from a distance – an act of faith and confidence in me to carry out this work despite the adverse situations has been a blessing and spiritual growth.

Anew I thank you all for you support, your love and your faith in this ministry, asking that you don't stop praying for me, for the Church, and for my family that the Lord gives me strength, wisdom, and fortitude to continue fulfilling His purpose.

To Him be the glory and the honor always.

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ who blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ, who knew us before the foundation of the world that we should be holy and without blame before Him
Ephesians 1