



The Murillo Family

Ruben Jr., Andrea, Jillie and Blake

Mexico & Cuba

January 2017

Dear Prayer Partners,

"The Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord." Job 1:21b. The past three months have been very difficult as we watched my grandfather, Sonny Fritz, die of cancer and my grandmother, Beverly Fritz, die of congestive heart failure. Although it is extremely hard to say goodbye, we feel blessed to have been given such wonderful examples to follow. They faithfully served God for the past fifty-two years as missionaries to Mexico. They were the first generation of missionaries in our family. They were the start of our godly heritage. Their testimonies will live on in the lives of the many people that our Heavenly Father touched through them. We will be forever grateful for their love as grandparents and their passion to tell others of our Savior.

Although we have faced many trials over the past few months, we have also had much to rejoice over. We were able to take a trip to Mexico last month to visit our newest church, Prayerhouse Baptist. The Lord is truly blessing this new church plant. After just two months, they already had sixteen faithful members in addition to the Pastor and his family. We were able to get to know the new church members after morning service when they surprised us with a meal that they had prepared. We were also able to take some time to encourage Pastor Julio and his family and to make plans for the future. Julio and his wife, Pety, have a passion for people and a great desire to serve our Savior.

In addition to visiting our newest church, we were also able to meet with the leader of our newest ministry, Vida Kids. Omar Martinez recently graduated from New Life Baptist Seminary, and he feels called to children's ministry. We are so excited to partner with Omar as he desires to help train men and women how to effectively teach children and to provide them with good Sunday school and VBS materials. We plan to help him hold several intensive training courses throughout Mexico, and we hope to one day send him to Cuba and other parts of the world to help train others. We were able to purchase Omar a laptop and printer to help him produce more materials that will be helpful to the churches that he is working with. Omar will also be leading our Pajama Project Team. On January 14, we will be holding another Pajama Project in the mountains of San Luis. For those of you who have sent money or pajamas, we would like to say thank you. We are so excited to see what God is going to do in the two new places we plan to visit. We are planning to give pajamas to about two hundred children. Of course, we will also provide a good meal for them and their parents, and we will take every opportunity to share the Good News of Jesus Christ. Please pray that the Lord will work in the hearts of the people and that we will see many come to know Christ as their Savior.

Thank you so much for praying for our family as we have been back in the USA for a medical furlough. After returning home, Jillian was diagnosed with Staph in her ear. Thankfully, the doctor was finally able to kill the bacterial infection after four rounds of antibiotics. Blake has been doing well with his asthma, and Andrea has undergone different tests and procedures. We ask that you continue to pray for our family as we seek to serve God in everything. Thank you for your faithful prayers and support.

For The People of Mexico and Cuba,

Ruben Jr., Andrea, Jillian & Blake Murillo

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