

HISPANIC MISSIONS



OVER 100 IN
OUR SPECIAL
SERVICE



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FINANCIAL
NEEDS

THE WORK CONTINUES TO GROW

We should never be surprised at how the Lord works, yet that is often the case. To think that 11 months ago we were able to open the doors to the Encounter Baptist Church is almost hard to believe. To see how he has blessed the work leaves me almost speechless.

We have not only watched as many have been faithful in their attendance, but also have been blessed in having new visitors arrive on a consistent basis. We are now averaging between 30 and 40 in our Sunday morning worship service. To some that may not seem like much, but for us it has been amazing.



Meat ready to go onto homemade corn tortillas

Not only has the attendance grown, but we have had more opportunities to spend time with our people outside of the sanctuary walls. This is something that a lot of our churches today have quit practicing. For many congregations, if it is not an organized church activity, they will not see other congregants until the next organized service. How far many have strayed from the days of Pentecost when an intimate time of relationship building was important! We have been able to spend time with our people in different parks, in their homes, on the church grounds and in our home. In most of our fellowship time, the Lord has allowed us to also answer questions that many have had about the local church and about God's Word. It is amazing what breaking bread together can lead to. Of course, our men and women are amazing cooks and that makes it even better.



When we have new visitors, one of the things that we try to do is to give them a bilingual Bible. We have the hope that this doesn't just encourage them to read the Word of God, but also that it would help them with learning English. I know having a bilingual Bible definitely helped me learn Spanish. We are thankful to our home church, Faith Baptist of Versailles, for providing us with these Bibles.

OUR FINANCIAL SUPPORT

One of the areas in which we are asking for your prayers is in our financial support. Over the course of the last few months we have lost **\$500** per month in support. Many of our supporting churches have shrinking congregations and are not able to even pay their own bills, let alone support a missionary. One church decided to move our support to another missionary, measuring his need as greater than ours.



Please pray that we could somehow raise new support. The challenge is to do so without having to travel. We cannot go and visit churches because we are tied to our ministry here. We know that God will supply all of our needs, but many times we have not, because we ask not. Would you join us in asking the Creator of all things to raise our support so that we might be able to continue to minister adequately and also be able to fulfill our financial responsibilities?

GOLDEN STATE?



In June we received Emyr Garcia into our home for about three weeks. Emyr is at 17 year old young man from one of our supporting churches, Landmark Missionary Baptist Church in Granite Bay, California. I have had the privilege of preaching several times at Landmark in both the English speaking services as well as the Spanish speaking services and was able to form a bond with many people from there, especially with Emyr's family.

He recently surrendered to the call to preach, praise the Lord! It reminded me of when the Lord touched my heart and I surrendered at the age of 16. So when his pastor asked if he could come on a missions trip and spend time with us, I was more than glad to accept. It was a great learning experience and blessing for all of us.

OUR BIGGEST SERVICE YET!



In May we had the opportunity to have a special service at a mobile home park in the city of Lexington. There are 500 mobile homes located in that park with the overwhelming majority of residents being Spanish speakers. We prepared lots of food, had breakfast and a worship service on a Saturday morning. We had about **50** total in

our service. That was a great blessing! We even received a donation of 10 dozen donuts from Krispy Kreme to aid in our event. Our people were excited, although they had hoped for a little better turnout. Not to be discouraged, they asked me when we would have another event at the mobile home park.

On August 11th we were able to go back to the same mobile home park and have a back-to-school service. We put together 30 bags of school supplies (which wasn't enough) to help out those that came. We planned on having some ice cream, chips and water after the service for those that attended. As a surprise, the office of the mobile home park donated hot dogs, rented an inflatable water slide and purchased socks for all of the children. What an amazing and unexpected blessing from people that had never met us or attended any of our services. We were able to give out new testaments to all of the adults that desired to have one as well. We had over **100** people in attendance for our service and we were able to share the gospel of Jesus Christ with all of those who came.

We are studying through the book of John and that morning we had read that the fields "are white already to harvest". What an amazing reminder of what God can do when we go and work the fields.

A NEW MEETING PLACE

We are continuing to pray for a new meeting place. We continue to be blessed to use some of the facilities at our home church for our services, but we have outgrown our space. We would love to have somewhere that has classrooms and a nursery, a place of our own. We know that the Lord can supply the place and the finances for that place. Once again, we are calling on each one of you to join us in petitioning the Almighty to provide for this need. Some would say having no room is a great problem. In one sense it is, but it is still something that needs to be remedied and we know the One who can do just that. We are eternally grateful to those who have been praying with us on this matter and are grateful for you all who will join us in praying for this need.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

“By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another.” (John 13:35) We have a great responsibility to reach the people of our community and we do not want to forget it. Yes, we want to reach them first and foremost with the gospel, but we also want to help them in their physical needs. The Encounter Baptist Church is staying focused on that mission. Not only do we continue to reach the community with the gospel, but also with the love of Christ. We have continued to donate to the local food pantry and are now presented with a possibility of being able to minister to those that work at the race track here in Lexington. Most, if not all, the men that work with the horses at the Keenland race track are hispanic. We may have the possibility of helping reach these men for Christ. Please pray for our continued efforts to show love not only to our community, but the possibility of reaching others.

