

Baja Christian Ministries Update and Prayer Letter 11/24/03

Dear Prayer Partner,

As it states in Ecclesiastes 3:11-- ...God makes all things beautiful in His time. Then again, in Eccles 8:6--NIV-- "...there is a proper time and procedure for every matter..." More and more I'm growing to love God's Divine Arrangements, Appointments and Timing. God does make everything beautiful in His time and in His Procedure. Thanks for your prayers as they are helping us to see that procedure and stay on track with Him. I shared with you how one brother stepped up to the plate and purchased and sent to us 750 copies of Nuevo Testamento Ilustrado (Illustrated New Testament) which the children of Mexico love so much. Now another brother and his wife just purchased for us 400 complete Spanish Bibles (Vinyl back) that just came in today--great timing for a big weekend ahead of us. Blessings to these families that have equipped us with this vital ammunition. We do have a big weekend and some exciting things ahead for us.

We all have been blessed and seen first hand the refreshment, encouragement and glory to our Lord that comes through the ministry of giving. This weekend 7 new houses and 5 latrines will be given to poor anticipating families thanks our Glorious God and His people who are giving of their finances, time and labor. And for those who are learning to excel in the Grace of Giving that Paul speaks about in 2 Cor 8:7--NIV and the rest of the chapter what an enormous blessing that is! Following the prayer requests I've enclosed a Poetic prayer I wrote entitled, "Let us Excel in the Grace of Giving". Please read through that as you lift us all in your prayers. Thanks much! Please lift in prayer the following requests:

1) Jon Hall has a large team from Canyon Hills Church, Lake Forest in Baja now building 5 houses and 5 latrines. Phil Dunn, Dan Cislo, and Kelly Gerhart from Malibu Presbyterian Church, Malibu are bringing in a team to build 2 houses tomorrow. Joe and Laura Watson have rescheduled to December, but from my understanding their home survived fine through the Arrowhead fires. Rob and Carolyn Covell from Flipside Church of Alta Loma will be breaking up in team to do evangelism, food distribution, and outreach in the community tomorrow, Saturday Nov 8. Also the team members from all these churches will be reaching out and giving in Christ's love in various ways. We'll have a number of college students from Pepperdine Univ. and from other Colleges surrounding Flipside Church. Also David and Laura Boyd and Curtis Drever are bringing a team from Irvine Presbyterian Church to help finish up Sunday School rooms at Pastor Manuel's and working with the children's ministry in the community. Please pray that God would bless these groups and strengthen each team member and prepare them for this time of ministry.

2) We are staging a BCM Fund raising Banquet on Saturday Jan 24th at Azusa Pacific University. Our goal is to raise \$75,000 from this day on through January and then topped off at the banquet. Warren Duffy will be our Keynote speaker. Please pray with us that this will be well supported and that we will reach our goal for it is important to our ministry. Thank you much!

3) Tim Doyle and his team Octillo Bible Church of Octillo CA is coming down to build a house-size church building for a pastor and congregation on Nov 15-16. Thanks to our Lord Tim's home survived that terrible Alpine fire. Also on that Saturday, Pastor Bill Stafferi of First Baptist of Fountain Valley is bringing a team to build two latrines and finish the Sunday school room for Pastor Manuel.

Pastor Anthony Walton from the Rock Church in New Zealand is bringing a team of 13 leaders from different churches in New Zealand to minister in some of our churches in the Baja, also house to house and also funding and building two houses. What an inspiration this group is to come this distance, etc. to be a blessing to many. Also that weekend, Mike Frabotta is leading a team from his company to build a house. Also on Nov 24-28 Valerie Vanderbrink is leading a team from Woodenville Alliance Church of Woodenville, WA to build a house and extend Christ's love in many ways. Then on Nov 27-29 Michael Klubock is bringing a team to build a house. All these groups need your prayer coverage for protection and blessing and that funds will be raised on time and sent to our office on time along with all the heart preparation in them and in the people they will be serving.

4) Please lift Pastor Hector Rubio, Cheryl Walker, Pastor Salim, Pastor Chuy, Pastor Martin, Scott Sepanek, Pastor Manuel, all our Board members, partners and associates, myself and our wives and families in your prayers. Pray for fullness of God's joy, His peace that passes understanding, His Love that passes knowledge, abundance of provision and finances, wisdom from above for us all along with good health, protection and His abundant blessing, but most of all that we put Him first, First Love in our Lives. Thanks much!

With Gratitude, Bob Sanders--Poetic Prayer follows--->

Let us Excel in the Grace of Giving

(Luke 6:38, John 3:34, 2Cor 8:7—NIV)

Generous God, You Love the Cheerful Giver
Into such hands You Promise to Deliver
Your Kingdom and Treasure
That Flows from Your Spirit without Measure
Like a Free Flowing River
For it's Your Good Pleasure
To Richly pour out
From Your Heavenly Spout
Hoped for Desires framed into substance
Through Your Gracious Presence
By way of faith and patience
Though this flow is often blocked
By self-obstructing mental rocks
Yet You gave it all
And Continually Give like a Torrential Waterfall

Through Jesus Christ Your Son
The Only Begotten One
Who continually satisfies lack
Filling gaps, Filling need
yet repulsed by greed

While focusing and drawing us through love and affection
You Nurture Faith in us which is the vital connection
Like the sunflower to the sun
You align and attract
And then generously radiate back
Though often dried,
Yet in Your Perfect time we are well supplied
You cause us to grow through ebb and flow
Preparing us through light affliction to later be glorified
You cultivate in us inner credence
By pruning and drawing us to emit a strong Faith that is the connecting sap
That Substantiates Your Abundance
To fill our eternal and temporal gaps
But not only for us but also for others
Who are indeed our sisters and brothers
Not to be ignored and neglected
But to be tangibly loved, freely blessed and respected

Give and it shall be given...
Pressed Down, Shaken Together, Running Over
In God's perfect time,
Giving primes
His Heavenly Tap
Causing Men to Pour Back into our laps
So that the Measure Given shall be Measured Back.
Thirty fold, sixty fold, one hundred fold
Solidified through precious faith that's been purified as gold
Do we really believe it is more blessed to give than to receive?
Shall we embrace this precious promise or shall we miss
Will we shrink back
into fear and greed
Causing us and others to suffer lack
Causing the poor to continue in need?
Or will we give and truly live
Breaking from this slavery to be truly freed
As Cheerful Givers
Conduits of God's Heavenly River
To turn the desert wasteland into a fruitful field
sowing and reaping onto God an abundant yield
Repairers of the Breach passionately committed to outreach
Noble Hearts quick to hear the bugle call beyond the walls
Not willing to live in a faith that's dead
Rather instead...
Enflaming within a faith that's alive and thrives
That's laced with good deeds

and Pro-active to give
meeting needs
passionately and truly living
Not rote, nor dead tradition, but faith-filled vision
Alive Ones who have learned to excel in the grace of giving

By Bob Sanders 11/7/03