

Worshipping God for what progress you've made possible in 2018 and now into 2019.

April 3, 2019

Look what the Lord has done... and what He has done with the help of each and every one who God has placed in our lives as partners in the mission to Mexico and the world.



Greetings once again from Puebla, Mexico. I haven't written since the end of last year so it is time to report a wee bit of God's blessings in our lives and ministry. Because of our 3 ministries in the Bible school, the church and publications, we have our moments that are very full, with battles when one has to persevere in prayer to win the battle and then there are moments that are filled with changes and advances. But to advance, there has to be both vision, then changes and also perseverance in the faith.



In January, we began our Bible school again and we give thanks for the hunger that there is for word of God. The expansion that we are trying to do by putting our school on line is costing us more work than expected but at the same time there is cause for rejoicing. We have students in our own school studying on 3 or 4 levels simultaneously, the DVD classes de ISOM, those who are studying in the traditional form and then we have students beginning to take our classes via our web site from past years. Because of the robbery of our equipment and recording, we are having to re-record certain parts that were damaged and don't work like they should, or the following class isn't there, so we're working

doubly to do some of this catch up work, but that is part of the vision. **Training and releasing workers that the Lord is calling to His work.** Praise God.

Our church youth group is a great blessing and growing in the Lord. The youth leaders have been thru their own battles but the Lord is bringing them and the group ahead by His grace. Right now they are again in a different stage, responsible for the Praise and Worship team who ministered well in Rowene's absence. Some are singers and others musicians growing in the Lord and their giftings. Some are responding fine and others with difficulty but all this brings growth. When we are away, they continue meetings well without us.

Look what the Lord has done and is doing... WOW! Please Praise Jesus with us!

The publication ministry also has grown. Before I have only talked of the magazine ALIANZA which is continuing its outreach across in our area (Mexico City and Puebla) and also across the nation somewhat. Recently we felt led to also publish manuals of teaching material too, especially some of Rowene's teaching material on Ephesians and her material on Praise and Worship. We published some copies and took them to a conference and with the blessing of the leaders, we sold everything we had taken with us rapidly (should have taken more!).

April- May edition of our magazine just out.>>





Besides our regular activities, I'm also working on a very important project now of planning our Logos Bible School and University program **graduation ceremonies**. Yes, I said ceremonies – **there will be three ceremonies in three different cities! Praise the Lord**. Pastor Buzza from Coquitlam is coming for such and it will be precious. We have students in two other sister schools that will be graduating as well as several from our own campus. Many times the number of graduates diminishes greatly from the number that started but in the Oaxaca school the director told me the group has held together and there will be 19 or 20 just like when we gave out the one year mark certificates. Halleluiah! **When pastor Barry arrives (May2), we will go the**

next day to the school in Tezuatlan Puebla where the pastor has worked hard. Pastor Victor took classes with us in the 1995-2000 era, didn't graduate because he moved out of the city to take this church. He has continued working and studying, opened his own Bible school in conjunction with us and every once in a while we have an ISOM grad there. He is now a state supervisor in his denomination (Church of God). This time the pastor will be receiving his MTH as well as 6 other graduating from ISOM. **That school is about 3 hours north east of Puebla. From there we will drive south on Saturday about 5 hours to Oaxaca city** where Sunday morning we'll minister in Sis Sarah Lopez dad's church and give out Graduation Diplomas and pray over, commissioning the 19 or 20 EIM-ISOM grads there into new levels of service in the Kingdom. **After the service we'll drive immediately about 4 hours north and west back to Puebla where Monday we will celebrate by graduating 2 more pastors with a MTh & BTh, another with a 4 year Diploma as well as give out 4 or 5 more ISOM certificates.** **That's 4 Graduates and 30-31 ISOM grads!**

Pastor Barry will also speak to a Puebla pastors group Mon a.m. and teach a seminar Mon thru Wed nights before boarding his flight Thurs May 9 back to Canada for a rest! Well this is the plan. Pray for us, for the vehicle and each one who will go with us (Rowene, Pastor Barry and I at least). **It is not just about putting on our caps and robes, giving out diplomas and certificates, we also want to minister to and impart vision and giftings to each recipient by the Spirit of God and minister to the congregations and their leaders as God leads too.** It will be heavy but very worthwhile I'm sure. I'm looking forward to it. **This sort of thing is what we are here for, what you have been praying and helping us to be able to do – preparing and releasing workers so that they can go forth, establish churches and disciple other faithful men and women to reach the world with the message of God's love and forgiveness for mankind thru faith in Jesus Christ alone!**



Faithful! GOD IS FAITHFUL, and we're so thankful but we also want to thank each faithful friend and partner who stands with us in prayer and financial support. Rowene went briefly to be with her mother during a medical test in March and just returned last week. She also got to see Cyrus, Michael and Darling that way too!

We've now been living and ministering by FAITH in Mexico for 36 years since coming first in 1975 and God has done many miracles to keep us here. **FAITH means we don't always have enough as one would say but TRUSTING GOD daily for his supply.** The first time God gave a financial miracle was in the very beginning when at the last moment we were lacking the finances to go to Mexico, our own little church said "Pastor, can't we send them out?" and they did. Another time, we were about to return to Mexico and lost a main churches support the weekend before we were to board the plane to return. God has kept us "afloat" even through those horrible expense of chemo therapy for Arlene. Other times a person passed away and we would receive a note indicating such but none the less, the effect is felt but, **THE LORD ALWAYS HAS ALWAYS SUPPLIED,** just as up till now **(and we're**



expecting Him to do the same thing again!!. Over the years a couple of times we've had a large donations given that were put aside to be used at so much per month to keep us at a budget of sustainable level here in Mexico. A fund of that description has just dried up. Originally it was a gift from God but again the "brook has dried up". In the mid 1990's we were able to buy the house we've lived in 27 years now, before the prices went wild (*here too*) so we don't have the rent problem to pay monthly but it does cost regular cash income to live and to carry on our 3 ministries.

Since the New Year we were warned the last of those funds that had been given was about to run out and we just found out it ran out Mar 31/19 – That's the date when that supplementary fund expired (Northside Church had been drawing from it month by month to supplement any budgeted shortfall). **The Lord hasn't said to either Rowene or I that we should return to Canada, and we believe our most fruitful years are still ahead.** There are still some supporters helping us fulfill God's call but we are for sure several hundred dollars per month short (\$500+), maybe as much as 7-8 hundred. **There has still been no "first of the month" deposit made this month** so I'm still unsure of the details but praying. We do have Scotiabank accounts so if someone or if your church wants to direct deposit an offering, I'll be glad to supply such information or call my brother John in Pangman or Sis Stevenson in Coquitlam can give you such info also (604-942-0385).

**With your
prayers and
help we can
do this!**

**We're here
living by Faith!
– Will you hear
God's call and
give to help us
fulfill His
command to
us?**

If your church or any of you have a missions offering you'd like to or could **seed** into this ministry either one time or month by month and help us continue to invade the kingdom of darkness **by raising up workers and bring them into greater service in God's Kingdom**, can you please send it to our home church, **Northside Church, 1140 Lansdowne, Coquitlam, BC V3E 2Y9** (we're The MEXICO PROJECT - the Sheppard's). Tel: 604-942-7711.

We aren't raising funds for "our next ministry trip to Mexico", we're already here, speak the language and have an operational base operating. We just need more operational funds to bring us back up to the norms necessary for operating it and making advances against the enemy. With your help we can do this!

Northside church in Coquitlam BC is still channelling our funds but they only send such as is sent our way from churches and individuals who God challenges to give and pray for us. Please don't feel your \$10 or \$20 or \$50 / month doesn't amount to much against such needs but **God still uses "the widow's mite" (small offerings) to supply the daily and ministry needs of his prophets and missionaries.** We're believing God will raise up what's lacking of our \$3000 Cdn /month budget (Living expenses plus ministry expenses which includes supplementing field workers and other ministry expenses). Thanks for partnering and praying with us.

Serving JESUS in Central Mexico
David & Rowene Sheppard

PS: *They say that Leadership is inviting other potential leaders to pray and become a part of the vision by giving. *Maybe you could become a leader in both these areas and partner with us in this Great Work in the Harvest field for Jesus!* Politicians are masters at it and people give for strictly a temporal vision. **We're seeking to fulfill God's eternal vision for us – reaching and changing a nation and the world, for JESUS!**