

## David and Rowene Sheppard's Fall Newsletter – Oct 30, 2019

**Hello! Here we are “Keeping in touch” and sending you “Greetings” from Puebla Mexico in Jesus Precious Name!**

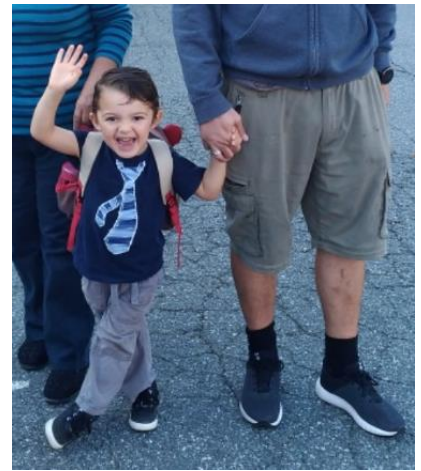
What a wonderful time we live in! Some I'm sure will take offense to those words but when we think of God's plan and all that is and has happened, **we must give JESUS praise.**



**44 years ago this month (Oct 1, 1975) we left for our first ministry tour in Mexico and Latin America.**

Also we praise Him too for our 48 years together serving Him with gladness (our recent anniversary was Aug 21) and for yet another year of my life (71 years old on Aug 28). My Doctor even exclaimed that my cholesterol is way down over 10 years ago. Praise the Lord! Here's a picture of our little **3 year old grandson Cyrus!**

Another school year has come and just the other day we received picture of our 3 year old grandson going to kinder



garden for the first time. Little tie, nice shirt and backpack etc., wow! Then I think of the work here in Puebla where we have once again **over 20 students studying God's word in our Bible school ministry.** Our church is working to bring change in the community and also **the ISOM Bible School and then Logos Christian University Puebla ministry will bring change to the nation or even nations perhaps!** Just ministering the other day about the difference between Isaac and Ishmael. God promised Hagar that He'd make of him a nation and give Ishmael 12 princes, etc., but of Isaac, God's promise was that Isaac's seed would bless nations. **We're working to bless nations.** Abraham was told to look at the grains of sand (looked down) and then told **to lift his eyes and counts the stars.** Stars bless us with their light shining in the midst of the darkness. Oh how our world needs more eternal light shining in it. And they were without number too! WOW! We're working for that too.

Our Bible school and University are both on line now and we have our first students studying on line! Praise God. It doesn't happen overnight but that's what we're believing for! (Are all of you our prayer partners praying in harmony with us with this vision too?) **Some of our students are already pastoring, many if not all of the rest are already helping their pastors and perhaps some feel the call of God to another ministry as well.** That's how we started out many years ago too! Some students are professionals that are working in their career while serving the Lord in a ministry in the church. Praise the Lord! Many want to do more but haven't the time to attend the Bible school because of work hours and shifts. **Soooo, it is wonderful that we have many of the last several years of Bible school teachings “on line” and we are now reaching students that otherwise couldn't attend classes normally that they are beginning to register to be able to study in other hours than when we have a “real” classes.** We also have some students from other cities now studying on line too. We now have two HD video cameras operating simultaneously to tape the classes as some our students have taken one class but not the other, so, they're trying to make the most of our teachers time and we have students who have are doing that. Some students are taking 4 courses when we are offering 3 time wise but they are doing it on other nights taking my course via video. **Praise the Lord!** Haven't figured out all the business of correcting and



grading material yet but... the Lord will help! One of our teachers, Gerald Nygren, after he teaches one hour, is even re-teaching something in the following hour to a graduate couple of 2 years ago so they can use it to better their ministry effectiveness (*an experiment*). Praise the Lord! Here's a photo of our UCLogos student body (2 Logos students, 2 of our teachers and the ISOM students didn't get included in this photo).

As for ourselves, we are well and strong and keeping busy. Rowene was in Canada for three weeks with her mom (92), with Michael and Emma for Cyrus 3<sup>rd</sup> birthday among other things. She returned to Mexico after voting early and having Thanksgiving Day in Canada. Personally, my doctor says my cholesterol is better than 10 years ago too (during the back operation 2½ years ago I did lose 10 kilos - that helps one's health outlook too).

Over the last few weeks though we've had heavy heavy torrential rains at times but at least now our house is dry inside. We had to re-do and reseal our roof and then put a rolled roofing with a hot sealed application process. Still need repairs to the inside but had to do the outside first. It was a **Big EXPENSE** but that should bring BIG Dividends in the long run. We've lived in this house now since 1992. We've also had quite a few car repairs so as to keep us running and ministering but believing the Lord they'll get all the creaks and groans(sounds) etc. taken care of today (it's back in the shop now for two days more after being in there a couple of weeks ago for servicing too). Our vehicle does take a continuous pounding from the potholes and speed bumps especially down here. One of my ministry routes delivering our magazine is approx. 155 kms long but literally there are 200+ speed bumps!!! (I lost count one time after 175 and I still had a lot of kms left to get back home! I laugh about the numbers at least. We used to tell people they had to count the speed bumps (13) to arrive at our house! Thankfully we have a good vehicle (2011 Town & Country – approx. 140,000 kms) to facilitate our ministry here.

**CHALLENGES:** We are believing the Lord for our personal income to increase again. Earlier this year we had a big decrease in income for a month or so and then we got a surprise promised until year end. Praise God! We still feel there is too much to do here yet to retire yet. We need approx. \$1000/month increase on Jan 1 as the \$600 that was made up or happened in May expires Dec 31. Losing that \$600/month would put us in a very tight spot and we need that \$1000 minimum above what is coming in on which to base our ministry. We have a strong ministry platform still where we can minister and are ministering, we're even ministering via Internet technology. We are both ministering several times a week. Will you pray with us that those extra funds will materialize to help us continue ministering here in Mexico? Pray about what you could do to help too? Maybe you're part of a church that could or would like to participate with us in the harvest in Mexico, would you pray about supporting or helping us either with a onetime gift or a month by month missionary offering. **Here's an IDEA:** One of the churches supporting us divides a tithe of their income between 2 or 3 missionaries I believe. The amount we receive varies but we know they are praying and supporting us month by month. They just send it in and it is a comfort to know the Lord is using them to help us live and minister month by month.

Since mid-October 1975 when we first arrived in Latin America (44 years ago), we now have over 36 ½ years living and ministering here (mainly in Mexico), we both are completely fluent in Spanish, have raised up three different ministries that are functioning and producing fruit here (5 or 6 ministries if you count in the recordings and songs written and books we've published), who will help us continue? *We haven't felt it is time to quit or return to Canada and retire so* we are by faith planning on continuing as long as the Lord supplies (*we've been FAITH missionaries all these years anyway! – so why not continue – eh?*). **The apostle Paul asked the saints to help him with offerings to help others too!** It's a financial miracle we need, will you help us praying and believing for this miracle? **Thank you!** We'd love to see more workers trained and raised up still. In order to facilitate the low incomes of our students, are fees are so low there is nothing to help us. The church is the same – we're working among the poor economically, making way for enrichment in the future, because that is what the gospel does – it enriches us. Rowene's family and mine were both poor in the 1950-2000 but God! Just like many of you – but they were rich in faith and God changed their circumstances. Praise His Name! Pray with us about that too please (in our publications, church and Bible school ministries). In our publications ministry, both of our books in Spanish are out of print and need to go in for a second printing. Just delivered newest Magazine in Mexico city and Tlaxcala state, others do it in Puebla. **God's Building an Army in Mexico!** If you don't need a tax receipt, you could deposit an offering in our Scotiabank account: #808200 426687(David L Sheppard). If you want a receipt

for income tax purposes, our home church will receive your offerings and send you an income tax receipt in the New Year. **(Northside church, 1140 Lansdowne Dr, Coquitlam BC V3E 2Y9 (designate it to: The MEXICO PROJECT - the Sheppard's))** Believe with us for this miracle! **We're serving JESUS, now and in 2020, in Central Mexico, raising up and releasing laborers into the harvest field for Jesus.** Blessings!

May God bless you all richly,

David and Rowene Sheppard

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