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Dear Friends,

In 2 Corinthians, Paul writes to the church: *“Test yourselves, to see if you are in the faith; examine yourselves!”* (2 Cor 13:5, NASB). Every so often we need to do some self-examination of our spiritual life and see if we are living for Jesus Christ for real or “just going through the motions”. We set 2018 as a year to grow in Christ, but part of that growth comes by “testing” ourselves and our faith in Christ. May God help

you this summer to *“Test yourselves, to see if you are in the faith”* for real!

Puebla del Río Church ministry. This year the church has some joint activities with the Coria del Río Evangelical Church for *our 30th anniversary* and the Coria church’s 40th anniversary (and the 140th anniversary of the first Evangelical church in Coria in 1878). *We are focusing on God’s faithfulness during three centuries* (19th, 20th and now 21st centuries). At Easter we had a Bible conference series with 2 conferences **Jordi** gave in the Puebla church on Maundy Thurs. and Good Friday; then 1 confer. in the Coria church on Easter Sunday, with an invited Spanish pastor. Then we followed it up with a fellowship meal for everyone from both churches. We also plan a history exhibit-conference in Oct. and a concert in Nov. to finish the special anniversary year.

Although it is a special year for the church we have seen a frustrating drop in the Sunday attendance due to many factors: work schedules, illnesses, outside activities, family problems, moving to a new town, or just lack of spiritual commitment. We used to be 30-35 on Sundays. Now we are often 15-20, or sometimes 24-25. It has been one year since Jordi has been in the ministry and he’s doing well, especially in preaching and counseling. We’ve also seen a 30% increase in offerings, and the 6-7 families who give consistently have followed through on their faith-promise offering. That’s encouraging (in spite of the attendance) and helps pay Jordi his small monthly stipend, yet we’d like to raise it, and we long for many of the regular attendees who come only 1-2 times a month, to make an effort at consistent attendance/giving. Jordi has to work 2 other part-time ministry jobs (one is at the Al-Ándalus Seminary), but he doesn’t even earn \$1,000 a month. **Please pray for the Puebla church members** to strengthen their commitment to Christ and to helping the church grow for a strong testimony to the town. **Please pray for Jordi’s financial need and to continue developing a solid ministry in the church like he is doing.**



Other ministries. **Salud** is already busily involved with the regional ladies committee getting the poster, registration and other details for the annual Ladies Retreat this Nov. She actually starts working on these things in Dec. each year and has had 10-12 meetings in Seville in the past 6 months, as well as her graphics work on the poster-announcement and registration form. Jordi and I attended the FIEIDE regional assembly for 25 churches in Andalucía on Apr. 21st in a church in east-central Andalucía. I helped to start a new Expository Preaching Workshop for the Seville metro area on May 5th. I’m also teaching a 6-week class on the *History of the Reformation* at the Al-Ándalus Seminary since May 29th as part of a new program for lay leaders. In July, the Seville Evangelical Historical Society plans a summer camp retreat and I’ll give 2 conferences on the Evangelical work in Spain in the 19th century. We’re never bored!

Family news: The **BIG NEWS** this month was **Jonathan’s graduation from med-school after 6 years of hard work** (and clinical practice this past school year)!! We’re very proud of his tremendous achievement and having a medical doctor in the family! Now he’s preparing for the Medical Intern Residence Exam in Feb. 2019, which will determine in which hospital he will do a 5-year residency in oncology, since he wants to be an oncologist and his thesis was on a new form of bone cancers. **Please pray for him as he studies for the MIR Exam.** **Salud’s** oncology check-up this month also went very well! Her oncologist said that *if her test results in Jan. 2019 are still all clean that she will give Salud a final discharge* from her follow-up. **Elisabeth** is home for the summer from the Univ. of Granada. She has a job at the same English camp program near Seville where she has worked the past 2 summers. **Thank you for praying for the health and strength of our family!**

Thank you to all of you who pray for what we have shared in this letter and/or support us financially to serve the Lord Jesus here in Puebla del Río. May God bless you this summer and help you to *“examine yourselves”* and then pass the test through Jesus Christ!

In Jesus’ love and service,

Frank, Salud, Jonathan and Elisabeth

2018 año aniversario: ¡La fidelidad de Dios en 3 siglos de testimonio del evangelio en Coria del Río y Puebla del Río!

Siglo 19 – 1878 La Capilla Evangélica

Siglo 20 – 1978 La Iglesia Evangélica de Coria del Río

1988 La Iglesia Evangélica de Puebla del Río

Siglo 21 – 140 años y el testimonio continúa...

