



# TENTMAKER NEWS

February, 1991

VOL. 4 – NO. 1



**Newest TBM missionaries** – Franc and Mary Ortega, shown with their children, Sarai (2 years) and Priscilla (6 months) in front of their church building following a recent morning service in McAllen, Texas. Franc, missionary-pastor of this young church, does his "tentmaking" as a manager of a local produce firm in the heavily agricultural Rio Grande Valley. Until Franc is able to raise additional monthly missionary support he will continue working some 50 hours a week to meet his family's needs. Tentmakers Bible Mission is pleased to recommend this fine couple to any church interested in hearing of or helping with the Ortega's ministry to the Hispanic population of their area.

## "What should I do, Lord?"

In relating the story of his conversion, Acts 22:10, the Apostle Paul repeats the question he asked earlier of the Lord on the Damascus Road, "Lord, what do You want me to do?" That was a great question for Paul to ask. It is a great question for every believer to ask.

The Lord's answer was delivered through Ananias, "For thou shalt be His witness unto all men of what thou hast seen and heard." Acts 22:15

It is important that every new convert ask Paul's question from the time of conversion. "Lord, what do You want me to do?" Yet, few Christians, old or new, are ever challenged with this. Most don't think seriously about such a question unless they have ears to hear what God is trying to say to them. But Paul asked this question from the very beginning. It is a good question for every believer. To ask this question at the outset of the Christian life will save many wasted years and perhaps much sorrow and many tears. "Lord, what do You want ME to do?"

## Tentmakers' Latin Ministry Expands

With a vision for expanded ministry among Latin populations, Tentmakers Bible Mission has added Franc and Mary Ortega to its missionary family. The Ortegas make their home just a few miles from the Mexican border in the Rio Grande Valley of Southern Texas.

Franc, a native of General Bravo, Mexico, serves as Pastor of the Maranatha Christian Bible Church of McAllen, Texas, – formerly the Latin American Bible Church. His wife, Mary, was born and spent her early years in the country of Panama, where she came to Christ through the ministry of New Tribes missionaries. (We plan to share Mary's unusual testimony in a later issue of Tentmaker News). Franc and Mary met during their Bible training years at Rio Grande Bible Institute.

The Ortega's long-term missionary sights with TBM are set on the country of Spain, after perhaps two years of continued service in their present ministry in Southern Texas.

TBM is thankful to have this fine family as part of its Mission family. Additional Latin nationals are now in the application process with TBM ministries among their own people.



**Hour of worship** – TBM missionary-pastor Franc Ortega leads his congregation during their morning service in McAllen, Texas. TBM Executive Director, Dick Manion, later brought the morning message with Pastor Ortega translating from English to Spanish.





**Open-air-evangelism** – A quartet from the Rio Grande Bible Institute shares a Latin presentation of the gospel to the crowd gathered in the town park of Pharr, Texas.



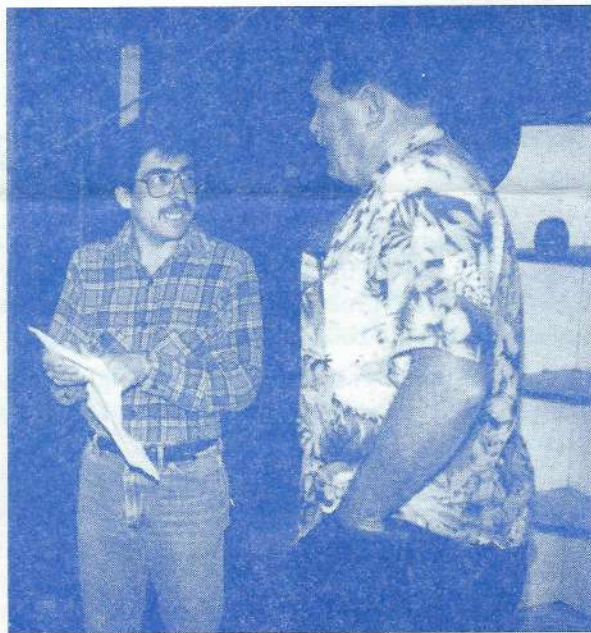
**Neighborhood guests** – These parents and children were part of the crowd which heard the gospel presented by a group of about 30 Latin students from RGBI. Many in the crowd came because of a personal invitation from the students who visited them. Some came from curiosity after hearing the students' music in the park, while others were attracted by a few of the students, dressed as clowns, riding slowly through the neighborhoods on the hoods of cars.

## Evangelistic Program Held In City Park

Music, mime, puppets, and preaching were all used effectively in proclaiming the gospel to a large neighborhood crowd in the city park of Pharr, Texas, just north of the Mexican border last December.

The open-air evangelistic ministry was conducted by a group of Latin students from the Rio Grande Bible Institute of Edinburg, Texas, under the direction of TBM missionaries Bill and Gail Marietta. Prior to the program the students went door-to-door in the immediate neighborhood inviting parents and children to the hour-long presentation. A crowd of about 100 parents and children, most of them seated on bleachers, some seated in their cars, some on bicycles, and a few sitting in trees, listened intently as the students gave several Spanish presentations of the gospel.

At the conclusion of the program the Bible school students circulated in the crowd for tract distribution and personal evangelism.



**Franc and Bill confer** – Newest TBM missionary Franc Ortega (left) discusses missionary strategy with TBM Latin Ministries Field Director, Bill Marietta, in Southern Texas.



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## ... LORD BLESS THE MISSIONARY"

by Dick Manion  
Executive Director



"The nonsense that missionaries are a special people with special strength and unusual devotion has caused enough harm. I've never met a missionary who believes this myth, but there seems to be hardly a church member who does not."

That statement appears on a prayer card of one of my missionary friends. And I believe it. For the past 30 years I have had some wonderful prayer-partners. But my best prayer-partners have been those who have known me best. Because they know me, they pray for "real", not imagined needs.

How can we know these needs? Look into your own heart. Except for geography it is the heart of the missionary.

1. *Pray the heart need of FAITH* will be met in the missionary. "Lord, strengthen the missionary's faith. May he trust you for every need." Visible results are often slow in coming and great faith is needed when sowing seed. A missionary may even fear returning home from the field, "empty-handed." Pray he will leave all results, or lack of results, with God. I Cor. 3:6
2. *Pray God will grant real WISDOM*. Wisdom is needed in dealing with one's spiritual children, fellow missionaries and our own families. Wisdom in speech and actions is important. Incompatibility is easily the mission field's most deadly virus. James 1:5-6, "If any of you lack wisdom."
3. *Pray he will have VISION and maintain a CLEAR PICTURE* of what is happening on the field. The missionary must not exaggerate "results", nor should he miss a blessing when the Lord sends it. "God, grant the missionary the ability to see the spiritual impact of the Word on lives." I Cor. 2:10-16
4. *Pray the missionary's LOVE* will increase, and that his love for the lost will not grow cold. Pray his willingness to forgive will remain active, not in word only – but also in heart. John 13:35
5. *Pray he will have JOY day-by-day*. Routine often destroys this. Pray he will never forget to laugh. It is good medicine. Pray he will never lose the joy of his calling. I Cor. 7:20
6. *Pray he will have PEACE*, no fear at all. Jer. 1:8-10
7. *Pray the missionary will be AT HOME* in the place he is called. "Wherever you are, be all there" is good advice. Pray about that "culture shock" and language adjust-

ment. To swing into a diet of foreign food and a foreign language can create acute homesickness. Phil. 4:11-12

8. *Pray for PURITY*. "Lord, keep the missionary pure in mind." The field of service makes no difference. How easy to falter here. I Tim. 4:16
9. *Pray for VICTORY*. "Lord, make that missionary victorious with his own children." Our children are the greatest mission field we have. Noah was a success with his own children and was honored of God in Hebrews 11, the faith chapter.
10. *Pray for TIME*. "Lord, help that missionary not to get too busy." Missionaries, as all Christians, need time for prayer and family. Eph. 4:15-17

## Dick Manion — Current Speaking Itinerary

### February 12

Nevins Lake Church (banquet)  
Nevins Lake, Michigan

### February 14

Ada Bible Church (banquet)  
Ada, Michigan

### February 17

South Boston Bible Church (a.m. & p.m.)  
Lowell, Michigan

### February 27

Missions Conference — South Boston Bible Church  
Lowell, Michigan

### February 28–March 14

Field visit — France and Spain  
Missionaries: Steve and Brenda Nesbitt (France)  
Don and Denise Tucker (Spain)

### April 7–10

Missions Conference — Howardsville Gospel Chapel  
Marcellus, Michigan

### April 12–19

Field visit — Utah  
Missionaries: Tim and Joy Miles  
Bill and Gloria Bagley  
Darrel and Pat Clark



# TENTMAKER NEWS

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## NEWS FROM THE FIELDS

### *STEVE AND BRENDA NESBITT – France*

The Nesbitts will soon be seeing double. That's right, come June, Steve and Brenda are expecting twins. This will bring the number of Nesbitt children to a total of five. So the prayer requests coming from their corner of France are quite expected:

1. Health of mother and safe delivery of babies.
2. A larger house.
3. Steve needs a storefront building for his "tentmaking" trade of teaching English to the people of his area.
4. Prayer for a particular problem in the work. A few young people have been lost to the charismatics. Pray the Lord will grant joy and blessing in the face of such discouragements.

### *DON AND DENISE TUCKER – Spain*

Praise. The Tuckers were granted a work-permit by Spain which will allow them to begin their "tentmaking" trade of automobile windshield repair, and to begin training Spanish pastors, who need support, to use this trade in their ministry also.

Pray that this job opportunity will open doors of ministry throughout Spain.

### *DICK AND CAROLYN MANION – Home Office*

The Manions are scheduled to visit our fields in France and Spain March 1—14. Pray for needed funds to cover Carolyn's portion of the trip. Should the war in the Middle East continue, they may have to postpone their trip a month or so until there is a clearer picture of international travel problems related to this crisis.

### *CAROL OLEXA – Home Office*

Carol, our Secretary - Treasurer, is a very busy person. Pray for her as she works everyday on behalf of all of our missionaries.

### *BILL AND GLORIA BAGLEY – Central Utah*

The Bagleys are seeking the Lord's leading in the purchase of land for their church. Land costs are high in their area. We are thankful for gifts which have come in to help with land purchase. Pray with us that they will be able to acquire just the right piece of property needed for the good work being done in Pleasant Grove, Utah.

### *DARREL AND PAT CLARK – Central Utah*

Darrel and Pat will soon be completing their two years of internship with the Bagleys. Pray that the Lord will give them and the Mission clear direction regarding their next place of ministry on that field. We are thankful for the good contribution they have made to the work in Pleasant Grove.

### *TIM AND JOY MILES – Southern Utah*

Good reports of people being saved and answered prayer in the lives of the people. Congregation of Southland Bible Church continues to grow. Pray for development of our camp property as we look toward summer ministries.