

# THE CERNA FAMILY

## MISSIONARIES IN EL SALVADOR

February 2019

Dear praying friends:

With much gratitude to our Lord, we communicate to you some of the blessings received so far this year. God is using our church with regards to evangelism and discipleship, greater doors for service are opening, and we are continuing to make progress towards buying a new property for the church.

A couple of weeks ago, Mauricio (the other pastor of our church) went door-knocking with Miguel (one of our faithful teenagers). By God's grace, they led a young lady to Christ. It was such a blessing to see Miguel not only go out evangelizing, but to be excited about seeing someone receive Christ. Please pray for this young man. He is 15 years old. His father was shot to death about six years ago. His mother (Rina) and younger brother (Gabriel) have been faithful to the Lord, but his older brothers (David and Luis) are very much in love with this world. I have been mentoring Miguel for several months now, and we're praying that God's Word would grab a great hold of his heart.

About two weeks ago, I was invited to preach at Iglesia Bautista Siquem in Sonsonate (a city 45 minutes south of us). This church was started over 30 years ago by a Salvadoran who is now a missionary to Romania. The church has fallen on hard times, as the pastor is advanced in years, and the membership has decreased to about 20-25. I preached to them the importance of being disciples of Christ, and of being faithful like the church of Philadelphia (Revelation 3). We have been burdened for this city for many years now. Please pray that God would breathe life into this church, that more churches would be established here and that we (our family and church) could contribute towards that in whatever way the Lord wants. Please also continue to pray for our plans to go to Honduras, sometime in the spring, to minister to a group of pastors.

By God's grace, we are still in transition as a church. It has been exactly one year since we moved out of the building that we were renting. However, the Lord has opened a door for us to be able to save a good amount of money. It looks like, in a few months, we will be able to have the amount saved that God has placed in our hearts. Please pray that God would do a miracle and that we could fully pay for a property that can comfortably accommodate at least 100 people. We are thankful that He has led us to depend entirely on Him.

The new school year has started in El Salvador. Our children began school on January 17. Rosa is in eighth grade, Caleb is in fourth grade, and Joshua is in second grade. The new school year has already presented us with some challenges, as those of you with children can understand. Please pray that our kids have a good testimony at their school and that they do their best. Rosa has a new opportunity presented to her this year. She is part of the city's basketball team. This is a great opportunity for her to let her light shine. Please pray for her in this new endeavor. Thank you for your faithful prayers and support.

The Cernas

**Field Address:**  
Cesar Cerna  
Apartado 11  
Santa Ana, El Salvador

**Sending Church:**  
Greater Portland Baptist Church  
17800 SE Main St.  
Portland, OR 97233  
Phone: (503) 761-1136



**Baptist international Missions Inc.**  
P.O. Box 9  
Harrison, TN 37341  
Phone: (423) 344- 5050  
[www.bimi.org](http://www.bimi.org)