



# Daniel Family Update

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## **Praises:**

- For God helping us finish the paperwork needed on the U.S. side
- For the aid that churches have given to help us immigrate
- For the opportunity to be involved in the Bible Institute

## **Prayer Requests:**

- That we can learn the language well
- That our residency paperwork will soon clear the next steps in Mexico City
- That the church in Los Positos will have the funds to build their own building
- That the door to door outreach in Miramar will be effective in reaching people with the message of Jesus Christ

I'm not even sure where to begin telling you what has been happening in our work during the past two months, but I will try.

Let's start with our immigration status. Because of the nature of the immigration laws here in Mexico, we had to make a trip back to the consulate in Raleigh, N.C. to complete another step in the process. Supposedly, the consulate is supposed to complete requests for residency within ten business days of the time you make the request. Our initial request was made in March of this year, but we were just processed by the consulate in September. What can I say besides "Praise, God we are through that part!"?

Now our paperwork is somewhere in the heart of Mexico City approaching the next series of hurdles. The lady handling our paperwork in the capital is hoping to be able to complete this year's paperwork soon but, we can count on at least one more trip to Mexico City before we will be done with immigration matters for this year.

We are very grateful to all of you that have aided us with the burden of the costs associated with immigrating. You have lightened our load of government fees, travel costs, photos, documents, overnight packages, lawyer costs, etc. considerably. We are still praying that the government would be gracious

enough to lower or waive some of the new fees that have been added. Please, continue to make that a matter of prayer.

As far as ministry goes, we have had a new avenue open up to us this month. Classes at the David Bible Institute have resumed and Brittany and I both have the privilege of each teaching a class. She is teaching piano basics to the students and I get to go through Epistolae Pastorales (Pastoral Epistles). Please, continue to pray that our language skills strengthen.

I am already noticing a difference in our comprehension and ability to converse in Spanish. Grammar mistakes still seem to abound, but most people chuckle and help us correct the mistakes. Overall, it is going pretty well for only having been here a few months.

Beyond the class time at the institute and our language tutor coming over to torture... I mean tutor us, I am still finding time to study and do sermon preparation. Bro. Shaw is still giving me opportunities to preach, albeit through his translation still. I really look forward to being able to clearly convey teachings of the Scriptures on my own without having to write out and then read every detail. I'm a bit jealous of the Christians' message in Acts 2 where it says "every man heard them speak in his own language." That had to be something!



Please, be in prayer for the mission church in Los Positos which is beginning a building project. That rural town (pictured to the left) has no Gospel-preaching church besides the mission church. They need to raise approximately \$20,000 USD to be able to build their own building.

On another note, contrary to the popular belief that Mexico celebrates Independence Day on the fifth of May, they actually celebrate it on September 16th. It was quite a sight to see everyone break out their flags and decorations. Jerry Shaw did take me to the center of town to see the celebration and fireworks as well. In spite of the fact that it rained all that day and night thousands of people were packed into the square until there was hardly enough room to breathe.

Another aspect of life here that is taking some time to adjust to is the maddening amount of traffic we encounter, especially during the morning commutes to the institute or to pick up our tutor. Just to cover the first mile from the house is taking almost an hour some days! Aside from the intense traffic, the roads really take their toll on the vehicles. The photo to the left is yet another example of the damage they do. When this tire went out in the middle of our morning drive I started laughing and told Brittany that I was seriously considering putting a tire counter on our prayer letter. I think that

was tire number six since we moved here. Such is life. It will be fine with me if a tire here and there is all the excitement we get on the roads here. I do thank God for the safety He has granted us so far!

Speaking of the crazy traffic, I am constantly reminded of the countless, lost souls that surround us here. As you can see at the top of the page in the photo taken from the roof of the church, the city just stretches on out of sight... even beyond the mountains in the distance. The sad thing is that the vast majority of the people living here are terribly misinformed by the Roman Catholic church about Christ and His plan to save mankind.

I am excited that the church that is there in that community of Miramar has started a new outreach in that area. Members of the church, the students of the institute, and we missionaries are meeting a couple of hours earlier on Wednesday to go witnessing door to door through the community. I am very grateful to be able to tag along and learn more about how to reach out to people in their language and culture. Please, pray for God to bless the efforts to reach these people for Christ.

In His Service,  
*Fred Daniel, III*