

MEXICO
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Matt Johnson Family

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Romans 10:1 Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is, that they might be saved.

January 2012

Dear Pastor and Praying Friends,

We thank the Lord for allowing us to see the beginning of another year with life and health. It is hard to believe that 2011 has come to a close and 2012 has begun. We were able to spend a delightful and memorable Christmas with family and friends. This year we were able to see all of both our families, and what a blessing it was.

The Christmas programs went well and the Lord blessed, although the Devil fought our efforts every step of the way. A friend recently told me, "I wouldn't want to be a part of anything that the devil wasn't against." A week before the cantata on the town square; the city called and canceled all the Christmas activities. They had begun remodeling the open-air theatre and the businesses were protesting the fact that the activities were to be moved to the walkway area. We had already distributed 5,000 fliers and had been announcing the cantata for over two months. Having to make some quick decisions, we held both services at the church. In spite of the changes at the last minute we were able to see the Lord work in a special way. On Saturday night, there were 350 in attendance, and on Sunday, the auditorium was packed with 450 in attendance with 40 first time visitors between the two evenings. Three people were gloriously saved and many more heard the Gospel. Some may not have made a decision that evening but we know that the seed was planted and "the Word of God will not return void." We appreciate all those who prayed for this event.

We ask you to make the building permits on the property out in Tequixquiac, a matter of prayer. We have been trying for over a year now to get all the paper work finished but it has yet to be accomplished. The church is doing well and the little building in which we now meet is full most every service. We look forward with great anticipation to this year 2012, and what the Lord has in store for the Emmanuel Baptist Church. This week we were able to celebrate the 50th wedding anniversary of a couple here in the church. Part of the purpose in renewing their vows was to have another opportunity to reach out to their lost family. Although they have remained very closed to the gospel, they were very attentive and grateful for the ceremony and the change that they have seen in the lives of Bro. Silverio and his wife Carmen.

Our theme for this year is I Chron. 4:10 "...enlarge my coast...". We have many plans for this year ahead - teacher training, couples retreat, youth conference, missions trip - just to name a few. Our prayer for this year is that we might be able to do more for the Lord than ever before... more souls won for the cause of Christ, more converts trained and more churches started for the glory of the Lord. Several have asked about the possibility of receiving our prayer letter via e-mail. If you would like to receive it electronically, please let us know. We do sincerely thank you for the part that you have in the ministry here.

In Christ,

Matt, Annetta and Makayla
Is. 26:3-4

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