

May 2008

Greetings,

As I write this letter, I think of all of you who keep us so close to your hearts in prayer and support. I thank God always, knowing of your faithfulness to serve Him by supporting this ministry that God has raised up for His Glory!

I know the economy has been difficult over the last year. With high gas prices, the foreclosure crisis that seems to be sweeping the nation, and factors like these, many people are seriously worried about what the future looks like. Now more than ever we need your continued support and especially your prayers during these uncertainties. But many of you have demonstrated your knowledge and FAITH that the kingdom of God never takes a break, as we continue to reach and teach the Gospel of Jesus Christ regardless of the uncertainties.

That's why I'm so grateful to God for surrounding us with brothers and sisters as yourselves who continually hold us up in prayer. Many have been surprised to see the many different ministries we do with such a small budget! From recovery discipleship programs for men and women, a 15 month discipleship bible school for all walks of life, shelters for men and women, helping young teenage girls who have been raped or on drugs or in prostitution by getting them back to school and, of course, counseling. Also, the house churches throughout Tijuana, and much more. Would you believe it if I told you we do all this with a budget of \$120,000 per year?

So, please continue to keep us in your prayers; please pray for the Lord's blessing upon us during this critical point in our history, for our efforts are pointless without God's approval. As the founder of the La Roca Ministries, I have to be convinced that the money you send to us is spent in an efficient and effective way, the way God would approve of it. In fact, that is part of my prayer each morning. And I feel that we are translating your gifts into helping and making disciples for Jesus Christ from the poorest of the poor and part of that confirmation comes from letters and emails I continue to receive from many that have come with us. "My life has been changed since coming down with you..."

Encouraging letters come in from youth pastors and workers saying, "Our group has been changed since we went down with you, we learned so much in such a short time! Even letters from those who have come for many years, have written stating that the Tijuana trip was the turning point of starting their vision for full-time ministry! The stories of all the lives changing here in Mexico would not fit into one letter or many letters. So we are excited to hear and see all that is taking place.

I'm one that tries to stay in front of the situations that life throws at us, so we are going to try to cut 15% of our overhead without cutting into ministry. So I'm starting with my family. We are going to move back into the mission center where we lived before. The addition off the back of the house on the second floor (over the outdoor cooking area) was initially going to be office space, but we will now be using that space as bedrooms for our daughters Christina and Karla. This will still allow us to have one more shower and one more toilet upstairs for the groups. This move will allow us to take a \$500/month cut in salary. Please pray for us as we make these changes and others to reach that 15% cut!

Please pray for Estrell's sister Julia. She has gone back home after being with us for two months. She has continued to come to church with her mother and on youth night! This past Sunday she had her big smile and happy as can be, she give me a big hug and said, "I'm doing fine!", which made my day.

Also, please pray for Vicky who is 24 years old and is a single mother of two beautiful daughters, the

oldest Mariana who is 7 years old and Nara who is 4. Vicky is showing heavy signs of resentment towards the oldest. Vicky had Mariana at a very young age; being deceived by an older married man who was taking advantage of her. Vicky also struggles with words from her mother which are imbedded in her mind and soul, that she is in no good, worth nothing; Vicky remembers her other brothers and sisters who received gifts from their fathers, but she never received anything. Her mother would tell her, "Your father wants nothing to do with you!", and so much more that Vicky carries in her heart that needs healing. Please pray for Vicky who is trying so hard to find healing in her heart so that she does not end up repeating the crazy cycle. Here is a picture of Mariana and Nara. Vicky did not want to take a picture.



Mariana and Nara

Exciting update: Federico and Mari are getting married on May 31st, 2008. Federico has been with us now for two years and is going to be graduating this May 4th from our bible school. Mari is also in school and works at an orphanage full time. They both are going to live in the La Roca Ranch along with Josue and

Mireya. Mireya and Mari are going to be in charge of the kitchen forming a great team. This is such an answer to prayer as we have been waiting for another couple to join our team. Exciting news as our community continues to grow.

Thank you for your prayers on our behalf -- especially for safety, energy, an effective impact of the Gospel and a boost in income. In His Love, Carlos & Rossy and the rest of the La Roca team.

p.s. We still need a fifteen passenger van or any donations of vehicles, we promise to put them to good use.



Federico and Mari



Floor for the new addition to the ministry center