

# CLARK PRAYER UPDATE AND CALENDAR

## IMPORTANT BEREA COFFEE UPDATE

(THOUGHTS SHARED BY TED)



In the middle of January we met with the legal team to review and update both Elsa's case and Berea Coffee's. Elsa has lost her case and all appeals. Hacienda (Mexican IRS) has to wait until one small, final court case is finished (several months at most, according to the lawyer), before they can begin the procedure of collecting the bill. The amount Elsa owes is extremely large

and totally unpayable by her or us. Truth be told we don't even know how much it is because it will continue to grow until the last case is finished but it will be around 2 million dollars. Kinda takes the wind out of your sails! When they come a callin', it is only reasonable to think they will take the camp as it is held in Elsa's name.

The reason it is in her name is due to an effort to change the land from communal land title to private property. (In short, it was done to protect the camp!) At the time, this seemed extremely wise and the best way to do this land title change. In hind-sight, we would do things differently but at the time it was sound thinking, so I'm not going to doubt now.



In the meeting, we asked the lawyer if there was anyone who could still intervene on our behalf. He hung his head, thought for a moment and said, "Well the only person who could cancel your debt is the president of Mexico." Then he added, "your only hope is God," (Whom he doesn't believe in). Sounds like we have finally whittled it down to a real hope! Honestly, amazingly, we are excited and hopeful. And we are putting our energy and resources into making disciples.



As the president has the authority to forgive Elsa's debt, she wrote him a letter the first part of February. She was still mulling over it, and over the impossibility of actually getting a letter to him. A



few days later, out of the blue, Elsa learned that the following day, the president was going to visit Huetamo. This is a very small and insignificant city in our state. The comparison would be something like Trump visiting Moses Lake, WA where my parents live.

So without knowing when he was going to arrive or how long he was going to stay, Elsa, Edgar (a young man who is one of our truck drivers) and Yuri (our school teacher), made the 4-hour drive and arrived just shortly before the president. Incredibly, through a series of perfectly timed and unlikely events, Elsa was able to personally hand her appeal to the

president, ask him to read it and tell him of our prayers for him! He held her hand in a long hand shake for about 10 seconds! (She now greets us with her left hand; the right is reserved for presidents 😊). So, let's pray the Lord moves in President Lopez Obrador to read and respond favorably. Once again God showed us His power--getting to the president isn't that easy; God opened the way.

But God isn't limited to the president. Nor is He limited to a camp! We are looking to Him to do the impossible and protect Elsa, the church, the camp and Berea Coffee. The hang man's noose is around Elsa's neck. What is our loving and all-powerful God going to do? This is more exciting than a movie! Let's not be fearful, nor discouraged; God can do this. And most importantly if He doesn't intervene and save us in the way we hope, He is still God, He is still loving, He is still in control, and it will mean He has a better purpose for us.

I realize that it would seem natural to be distraught, anxious, angry and fretful, and believe me, I've been there, but you know, I can't live there. That would be to deny everything I've read, believed and taught from God's Word. Friends, this is the most exciting thing that has happened in my life and I've never slept better! By God's grace, we are looking up, looking forward and focused on making disciples.



As I think about the people who have come to Christ at the camp and I see them individually — someone like Cano, a young 23-year-old boy who in November told me of his decision to believe in the Lord Jesus as his Savior just the night before, I think, "You know, they can take away the camp but they can't take away what God has done and they can't stop Him from doing what He is going to do! Is there anything better than being on board with God?"

## CLARK PRAYER CALENDAR, MARCH/APRIL, 2019

### MARCH 1-9

We would so appreciate your dedicated prayers with us for the situation just described concerning the Coffee Company and the camp. May the Lord be the One glorified in the outcome. If He wills, we are still hoping for a miraculous intervention. We know this is not too hard for Him. We definitely want what He wants in this, as we know that will be the very best. Please pray for continued peace for us and for all the workers who are facing the possibility of losing their jobs, the many children in the growing school who may lose their schooling, and many other situations, which will drastically change, apart from an extraordinary intervention.

### MARCH 10-16

Please pray this week for the many believers (some quite new in the faith) who are reading through the Bible this year for the first time. Pray for their minds to open to the truth, resulting in a greater love for the Lord and His Word, His work, and His people.

### MARCH 17-23

Please pray for the Lord's protection and blessing on our Parents in Action camping trip at the river this weekend. Pray that each of these families would grow in the Lord...that the hearts of the parents would be turned toward the children, and the children to the parents.

### MARCH 24-31

Please pray with us for the work in Ciudad Hidalgo. Pray for those studying the Bible each week there, that the Lord would open up their understanding and that each one would come to personally trust in Christ for their salvation and come to bring forth much fruit. We badly need a family who could come to that city, giving themselves to care for these families who are hungry for the truth, and dedicating themselves to evangelism and planting a church in this needy place.

### APRIL 1-6

We have been burdened recently to cry out to the Lord of the Harvest to send us more workers for central Mexico. 80% of the Mexican population lives in the hundreds of large and small cities of this central part of the country, and it is the most unreached area of Mexico. We feel such a desperate need for more laborers for the state of Michoacán, which, as you know, is a very large state with over a million homes. Since we first came to Mexico 30 years ago, we can think of around 20 missionary families who have left, and only 4 families remain (in our fellowship of workers). Please join us in this petition. Pray that God would stir up the hearts of many people for this task: young, old, or middle-aged, American, Mexican, or from anywhere else! We need people with a heart steadfast for the Lord and a love for sharing His gospel.

### APRIL 7-13

Pray for the little group meeting each week in Arúmbaro. Around 7 adults and 20 children gather to study the Bible. Pray for wisdom for us in meeting their spiritual needs, and light to their hearts. Pray for more from this village to begin to attend and come to an understanding of the truth.

### APRIL 14-20

The end of this week, we have our large family camp for Easter. Please pray for the Lord's blessing on this large gathering in every respect. Pray that the results may bear eternal fruit in the lives of all who attend.

### APRIL 21-30

Pray for wisdom as we will be planning a large conference for mothers and daughters the end of May, with the Mally girls speaking. Their books have been a tremendous blessing over the past few years. The newest, Speaking the Truth in your Heart, will be newly translated and ready for distribution at this gathering, Lord, willing. Also, we will be planning our next large AMOR Divino outreach for early June. We need much wisdom during the preparation stages.