

Clark Prayer Update and Calendar for Jan/Feb. 2020



Thank you for praying about our Christmas outreaches! We had so many first-time guests, such help from the Lord in preparing and carrying out the programs, and some very good responses from those who were hearing the gospel!

We went right to the greenhouses where the poinsettias are grown near Ciudad Hidalgo the week before, to pick out dozens of brilliant blooms to embellish the auditorium and dining room.

We served our guests the traditional Christmas meal of tamales, ponche and atole. As they ate, a large group of little shepherds, "sheep", "cows" and "donkeys" surrounded each table, one by one, singing carols, and wishing the guests a merry Christmas.



Rosy, (fourth from left to right), lives nearby and has been studying the Bible for about a year with Priscilla. She has been open on one hand, desiring to understand the Bible, but on the other hand, very attached to her traditional religion, plainly stating that she has no intention of leaving it.

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Recently, on her own, she made the "shocking" discovery that her Catholic Bible prohibits idolatry. She has been shaken deeply by this, and is now full of questions, and perhaps a little more open and willing to "think outside the box", than she was before. Please pray for her salvation, and that of her husband Santiago (far left in blue). She came to the Christmas presentation 3 times and seemed to be understanding better each time.



Two special answers to prayer for our girls



Annie and Fatima

Each of our girls had been praying for someone they thought unlikely to come...praying that they would nevertheless come to the presentations. They were both overwhelmed with joy and gratitude when the Lord brought each of them! Annie was praying for Fatima, whose family is very Catholic and opposed. Katie was praying for Monica, our dentist in Morelia. She came with her two little children and her father.



Mónica with Katie



← Exactly 3 years ago, José Luis from Puruándiro came to a Christmas outreach at the camp, after being faithfully sought after and invited by Martin Tuohy, our missionary partner in that city.

It was a desperate time in his life. The Lord had prepared him for what he heard that evening. He whole-heartedly opened his heart to Christ and has never been the same. He has become a great support in the ministry in Puruándiro, along with his family. This year, he returned, bringing relatives with him, and stood before all to give a joyful testimony of what God has done in his life.

Thank you also for praying for our big November family camp. We saw the Lord's kindness and blessing in answer to so many prayers. The focus of the excellent teachings was "2020 Spiritual Vision" (thinking of the upcoming year, of course). We especially desired to encourage the believers to a vision for sharing the gospel with the lost who are all around them, in this coming year.

Our daughter, Annie, has appropriated and passed on to friends, a challenge for the new year: Committing to **daily prayer** during the year 2020, for the salvation of one unsaved friend or relative (even someone who seems impossible). We invite you to join in this challenge! If you would like to choose one of the people we have mentioned, we would be happy to send you updates on them.

We have begun a discipleship ministry with the group of youth below. Some live at the camp and others nearby. They take part in more in-depth Bible study and ministry. Michael and Nathan have both been very involved in helping to carry out this effort. ↓



Annie is also very involved but she missed this picture!



← Bridal shower tea prepared for Katie by her sister.

↑ Each of the kids in the discipleship program has chosen a youngster in the church to “take under their wing” to disciple. Annie has been working with Fernanda, Jorge and Ana’s little girl. She is very sharp and open. Her mother is still not a believer, but her dad is reading his Bible faithfully and growing steadily in the Lord.



Please pray for the upcoming wedding of our daughter, Katie to Regis Mora, on January 11th. We expect around 500 people. A good number will be unsaved and we hope that the Lord will use this event to bring glory to Himself and open the hearts of some of these to the gospel. Pray for grace and strength for us through this exciting, but strenuous time.



BEREA COFFE UPDATE

A few new developments in the ongoing saga of Berea Coffee vs. Mexican tax authorities:

At the beginning of November, Elsa met with a representative of the federal magistrates that are deciding Berea Coffee’s case. In another letter we will spell out all the details, which are fascinating, but for now, suffice it to say that his reaction to her was amazing. What should have been a 5-minute interview stretched to 2 ½ hours. He went from being aloof and polite, to being very open, humble and seemingly convinced of the many injustices of the tax authorities. He knows both cases intimately and told her intriguing details that we hadn’t known. The details are riveting and unbelievable but apparently true. The level of corruption and **perversion** is incomprehensible! It seems totally bazar that he would share with her what he did, but we believe it was God, once again pulling back the curtain and giving us a glimpse of what is really happening. He ended the conversation by saying, “I have no idea why I’m telling you all of this.” Humanly, this information would be so infuriating, but what a joy to lift our eyes to the Lord Jesus and rejoice in His loving plan for us. Please pray that we would be faithful to the end! It continues to get more exciting!!!

This old picture shows our dear Bertha (now with the Lord), with Regis (right), his brother, Edy on the left and our Nathan in the middle.

CLARK PRAYER CALENDAR, January/February, 2020

JANUARY 1-4

Please pray with us for all those who heard the gospel during the Christmas presentations. The new mime enactment for this year clearly depicted again, Christ taking our sin on Himself, and ended with the stirring song, "His Robes for Mine". We talked to people who seemed to be impacted by these truths. Pray that Satan would not take away the seed sown, but that it would take root in many hearts and bring forth much fruit for eternity.

JANUARY 5-11

Please join us this week in praying concerning every detail of Katie and Regis' wedding, including the not insignificant detail of receiving 500 guests to the camp! We would so appreciate your prayers for their marriage as well, that the Lord would be the One to lead them continually and raise them up to be a godly family who will serve Him with all of their hearts.

JANUARY 12-18

Pray for the salvation of Rosy, and her husband, Santiago. Her parents and family in the nearby village of Pontezuelas are extremely Catholic, so it will be hard for her. We have not had a single opening in this village all these years, though it is so close to us. The people there are fanatical Catholics. Jorge's wife, Ana, is also from there, though both girls now live in Los Fresnos (our village), with their husbands. Pray also for Ana's salvation. Jorge feels she has become "immune" to the gospel message. Having heard it often, she gives mental and verbal assent to it, but clearly, it has not penetrated her heart. She and Jorge continue studying the Bible with Michael and Sofi and come to church together. Pray also for Fatima (who is actually Ana's sister), and Monica (the dentist), from the little story above.

JANUARY 19-25

Pray this week for the group of kids in the discipleship program. Pray for wisdom to guide them in the very best way and bring them to maturity in Christ. Pray that they would have a heart for Christ, and for the kids they themselves are discipling. Pray that the Lord would raise up these young people to be a bright light for His truth in the darkness of Mexico. Please pray again with us for the great need for laborers in this deeply needy field of central Mexico.

JANUARY 26-31

Please pray for Berea Coffee Co. that the Lord would continue to stand for us and defend us, as He has done till now.

FEBRUARY 1-8

Pray for our Parents in Action camp this weekend (Feb. 7-8). Pray that the Lord would take away hinderances to families being able to attend, and especially, hinderances from being able to do the reading and study with their children between camps. Pray that these books and studies would deeply impact each one, causing them to be faithful disciples and servants of Jesus Christ throughout their lives.

FEBRUARY 9-15

Again, we would like to reiterate the request from December, asking that you join us in fervent prayer, especially for the government authorities in Mexico, who seem unwilling **and** unable to deal with the turmoil. We are asking that in spite of this, the Lord would empower this president, giving him the will and the way, to restore law and order in Mexico, for the sake of living tranquil and quiet lives, and for the sake of the spread of the gospel in this country. (1 Tim. 2:2) "The things that are impossible with people are possible with God." (Lk. 18:27). Please pray with us that God will "stir up" his heart to this, as He did with the king in Ezra 1.

FEBRUARY 16-22

Pray for many of our church believers who are reading through the Bible this year, for the first or second time. Pray for the Spirit's work in their hearts, that their faith might grow as they hear the Word.

FEBRUARY 23-29

Pray again for our Bible scarcity problem (mentioned in the last calendar). Our agreement with the publisher seems to have come to a standstill, and we are sorely in need of Bibles.

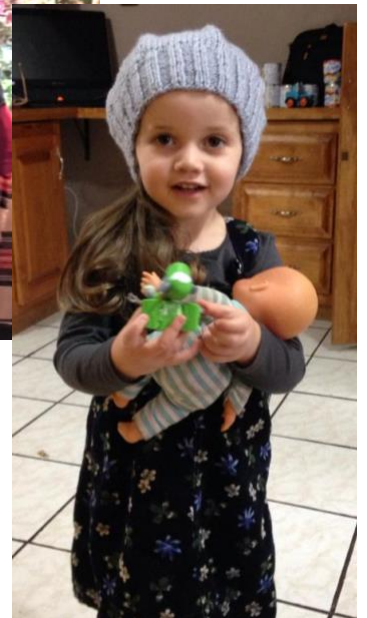
FAMILY PICTURES



It has been a treat to have Priscilla's mom, Beverly Kendal, with us through this season, and on through Katie's wedding.



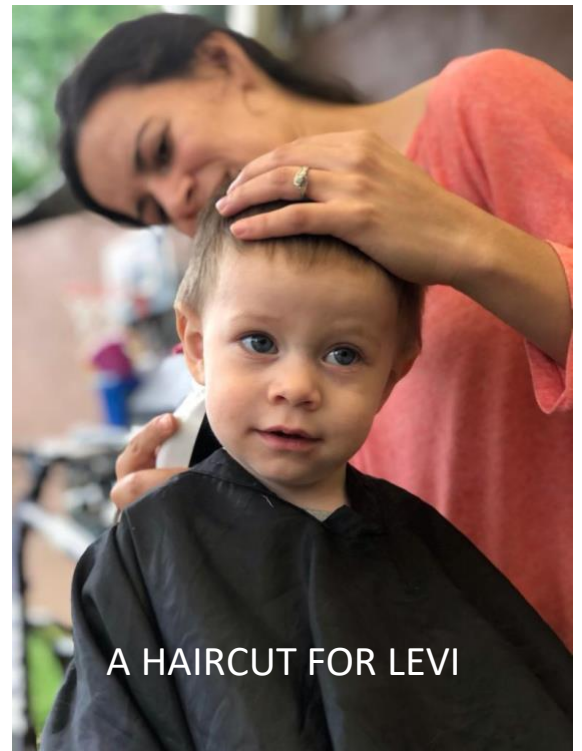
Caleb and Alma



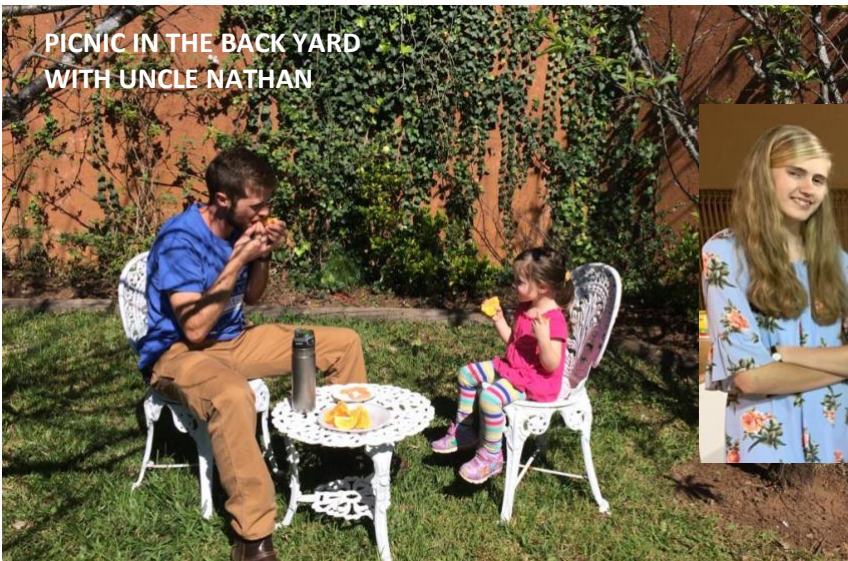
Caleb Michael Ted Nathan



Christmas caroling with the church in Los Fresnos. ↑ We were rained out for the first time this year—about half-way through. But we were thankful for the dry camp dining room to come back to and eat our special meal, which usually takes place at Juan’s house around a bon-fire in his yard.



A HAIRCUT FOR LEVI



PICNIC IN THE BACKYARD WITH UNCLE NATHAN



ANNIE AND FRIENDS