



Jorge and Elsa Membreño, and the church in La Cruz, Mexico

“And He said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me .” II Cor. 12:9

Strengthening the Spirit

MEMORIAL CHURCH OF CHRIST

Jorge Membreño, one of our most important co-workers in the mission field suffered a stroke in February that paralyzed half his body. In a weeks time, he began to recuperate slowly, unable to use his right hand, walking with the help of a cane and slurring as he talked. We went to visit him and his family and while we were there he insisted on continuing with his mission work.

Jorge is a graduate of the Baxter Institute and a graduate in therapeutic Psychology, originally from Nicaragua, he's married to Elsa for many years, has four wonderful children and two grandchildren. His son Jorge Hiram graduated from the preacher school in Monclova.

While working as a full-time preacher for the last 35 years in Northern Mexico he has helped establish three congregations, the second one being a church with elders and deacons.

In the middle 80's, during door knocking activities in a community close to Frontera, Mexico, he

established the church in La Cruz by converting all 27 members of a Pentecostal church in one day.

I remember attending the congregation and seeing a blackboard at the front that indicated records of attendance, contributions and baptisms to date.

Since 1999, when we started the ministry of helping churches grow and organize biblically, Jorge has been the strongest collaborator along with eleven others that have helped us cover over 120 congregations in 80+ locations throughout Latin-America.

Jorge is the most effective and inexpensive servant we have. He travels like a true missionary using 2nd and 3rd class buses to move in Mexico, Guatemala, El Salvador and Nicaragua. He travels for at least a month at a time and covers the remote small farming communities in Central & Southern Mexico as well as Central America, yet always leaving someone in charge at home.

Since his recent stroke, he has vowed to work in this ministry as

long as God allows him to.

In March, 2009, he reluctantly accepted the suggestion to limit his trips to Mexico only for the time being until his recuperation was complete. However he went to Central Mexico, to the San Mateo and Puebla congregations, then South to Chiapas where he worked with several congregations in the Tapachula area as well as La Union and Villa de Comatitlan. He was there for two months and returned to La Cruz where ho organized a massive campaign with eight of the local congregations. In a weeks time, they baptized 19 which added to the 22 he baptized in Central and Southern Mexico made 41. He wrote me yesterday announcing another baptism in La Cruz to make it an even 42.

Jorge is no longer using a cane, he is also helping with therapy and counseling with a family in trouble in Torreon as well as in other locations. I am very thankful to the Livingston and Memorial congregations that has supported his efforts for over 20 years for their untiring and faithful participation in this work. God bless them.