



Tommy and Brenda Ashcraft

Monterrey, Mexico

JUNE 2014 PRAYER LETTER

Dear Praying Friends,

Thank you for including us in your missions giving. We never forget that our support comes from dear Christians who love souls and want to get the gospel to those who have never heard.

Institute Graduation, May 21, 2014: Mount Hebron Bible Baptist Institute is one of the oldest independent fundamental Baptist Bible colleges in Mexico. It began in my parents' home in Monterrey in 1963. Dad (Dr. L. H. Ashcraft) did not intend to start an Bible institute. He just started having some practical Bible classes for members of the two churches he had started. These folks wanted more Bible teaching than what they could receive in three weekly church services. As other people began to show up, a formal institute was formed. Brenda and I came in August of 1969 and began to work in this ministry. That was 45 years ago. It is amazing what God has done. We know of almost 200 men who are pastoring churches who received their training here. Most of them, in turn, have started churches with men whom they have trained. So there are several hundred churches who owe their existence to the training that their pastors received in this institute. Many of our students come from churches pastored by our graduates.

We are excited about next semester. From the beginning we have had classes Tuesday through Friday, 7:30-11:35 a.m. In August we will begin having classes at night. We have arranged the schedule so that our students can get decent jobs and continue to receive the quality training we have always offered. Please pray that many married men will be able to attend classes who otherwise would not. We prayed for some time about this and after consulting with the teachers and prospective students, we are convinced that this is going to be a step in the right direction.

Graduate Starts a New Church: One of our graduates, Bro. Jesús Carrasco, is starting a church this month in Villagrán, Tamaulipas, about two hours south of Monterrey. Several good men have attempted to start a Baptist church there, but could not stick it out. Please pray that God will use Bro. Carrasco to establish a soul-winning church in this very needy city.

A New Christian School Ministry: For several years we have wanted to start a Christian school, but we just did not have the right person to take on the challenge. God laid it on the heart of one of our ladies, Juany Rodríguez, to start a Christian school for our church people. Juany is an experienced school teacher who loves the Lord and has a real burden to provide quality Christian education for the children of our church. She and her sister, Ruth (our son Stephen's wife) were saved in our church at an early age and have grown up here. On Sunday evening, May 4, we formally announced our plans to open the school this fall. The response from our people has been very encouraging. Our son, Jonathan, has been very instrumental in shepherding Juany and her husband, Angel, through the process. Please pray for us as we undertake what we believe will be used of God to enhance our church's ability to train children and teens for His service.

Souls are Saved Weekly: God continues to bless the soul-winning ministries of our church. We started three new soul-winning programs recently: two new ladies' soul-winning groups, and a Sunday afternoon program for church members whose schedules do not allow them to take part in other programs. 18 different groups of people go out soul-winning every week, averaging over 400 professions of faith per week. Brenda and I each lead one of these groups: she has a ladies' ("Sembradoras") group that meets in our living room every Friday morning, and I am in charge of a men's soul-winning program ("Fishermen's Club") every Friday night. What a joy to witness in such a needy and fruitful field to people who are so responsive.

Need for Support for our Bible Institute: We are aware of the difficult economic conditions of many of our supporting churches. We understand when it is impossible for a church to continue our financial support. During the last two years, we have lost 20% of our monthly support. I get the impression that people think that because we have been on the field for so long that we a large amount of money coming in. This is not the case. We struggle as much to maintain our support as a new missionary does raising support to go to the field.

If you are supporting this ministry, thank you for your faithfulness. We pray for you and for your finances.. If you are not supporting either us as a missionary family, or the Bible institute as a missionary endeavor, would you please consider praying about adding us to your missions budget. I believe this ministry is a good investment. We are training productive preachers and workers through the Bible Institute. Hundreds of souls are reached each week with the gospel. If you have any questions concerning this, please do not hesitate to contact us.

It would help us a great deal if we could send more of our prayer letters by e-mail. If you are interested in receiving your prayer letter by e-mail, even if you have requested this before, please let us know by writing us at pastor@mthebron.net

Thank you, again, for making it possible for us to be here. We do our best to make sure that your sacrifice is used wisely.

Yours for souls,
Tommy Ashcraft