

THE STEVENS FAMILY MISSIONARIES TO HONDURAS

Fall 2021



We, the Stevens family greet all of our faithful co-labourers in the name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. You are receiving this prayer letter in the month of December, but most of what you will read is what has transpired in our ministry during the fall months.

*On October 31, we had a special combined service with our two churches: The House of Prayer Baptist Church of Quebrada de Lajas, and The Only in Christ Baptist Church of Rodeo. The purpose of the service was to baptize twelve Christians into the membership of those respective congregations (eight into the membership of the church in Quebrada de Lajas, and four into the membership of the church in Rodeo.) We praise the Lord for those believers that he has added to his churches through baptism ([Acts 2:41](#)).

*In the beginning of the month of October we started again our Bible Institute at our church in Quebrada de Lajas (which was postponed for a while due to the Covid situation). We have classes every Friday afternoon, and we have about ten students at this time who faithfully come. They finished their first course in November, and we are planning on starting the next course, Lord willing, in January 2022.



Lastly, I wanted to mention that on November 18th 2021 our family left Honduras to come to the United States to have Thanksgiving and Christmas with my parents and extended family. I left the young man who has been training with us in the ministry, Lincy Cordova, in charge of our two churches, and I made arrangements to have fellow pastors of sister Independent Baptist Churches that we know to come help fill the pulpit during our absence. We have been in regular contact with Brother Lincy and some of the members during our time here in the US, and we praise the Lord that things have been going well. Which leads me to this:

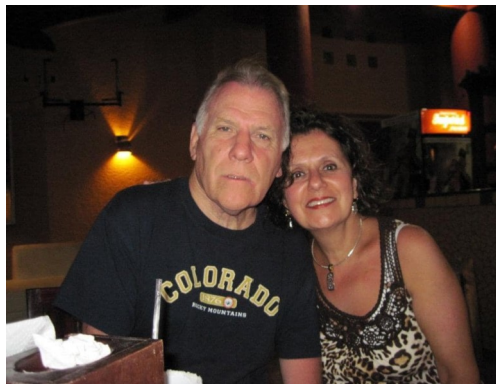
*Everyday throughout this year of 2021 my family and I have been praying to the Lord for two specific things among others.

- 1) That the Lord would give us the opportunity to visit my parents at least one more time in their older years and allow them to spend some more time with their grandchildren.
- 2) That the Lord would allow me to spend time with my dad to really question him about his profession of faith in Christ, and to get a better sense from the Lord if he was truly born-again.

I am thankful that the Lord answered both of those requests before my dad went home to be with the Lord on Monday November 29, 2021. He had experienced chest pains and trouble breathing that day, and my mother and I took him to the hospital, at which point he died of a massive heart attack while getting an EKG test. It was an unexpected shock to all of us, but we saw God's hand in the timing of when it happened. The Lord allowing my family to arrive here and have that last Thanksgiving with my dad (and all of the family) was such a blessing, and then for me personally to be able to be there in the hospital with my mother to console her as she watched her husband of fifty-two years go unresponsive in the trauma room, is something that I am so grateful for. Most importantly though, was that I got to spend some quality alone time with my dad when I made a trip by myself to visit my parents in January of this year, and then again during the past month of November with my wife and children. I was able to talk to him about his profession of faith in Christ, and he assured me that he believed that he was saved (even though he knew that he should have grown more as a Christian), and he by faith assured many others who asked him about his faith that he was saved: such as his wife; and numerous members of our home church in Philadelphia, PA who talked to my dad when he would visit services there from time to time.

Then I received the special blessing of preaching my dad's memorial service on Friday December 10, 2021 at my mother's church in Langhorne, PA. It was a wonderful service with powerful words of remembrance from both my mother and brother, and the Lord gave me great liberty in preaching the Gospel and testifying to all present about what was most important to me with respect to my dad: which was not that he served in the military; or that he had a great sense of humor; or that he was a faithful husband and dad (although all of those things were true about him for which I thank God for); But rather that the most special blessing and memory that I will hold on to with respect to my dad, was when he assured me that he knew him (the Lord) who he had believed and trusted in (2 Timothy 1:12), and by faith was confident that he would go to be with him when he took his last breath here on this earth. To me, that is "the peace of God, which passeth all understanding" (Philippians 4:7).

Please remember our family in prayer at this time: especially my mother, as these coming days and weeks will be difficult for her, especially when my family leaves to go back to Honduras on December 29th. We would appreciate your prayers as well for our safe travels. Thank you so much for your faithful support and prayers for us and for the people of Honduras.



Our Sending Church:
Christ Independent
Baptist Church
Pastor Victor Rivera
1618 Womrath Street
Philadelphia, PA
19124

Because Christ is Risen (I Cor. 15: 19-20)
Jason, Arlen,
Micaiah, Jeremiah, and Mary Ellen Stevens
John 12: 32- "And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men
unto me."
Missionaries to Honduras

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