



BABY DEDICATION

Our friends Oscar and Viri wanted to have a special time to present their son Josué to the church and pray for him. So it was our privilege to have a special Bible study with the family. During one of our services (pictured above), Jim shared about our responsibility as a church to each family, and several people prayed for the church and the family. What a testimony to a *different* kind of family – one dedicated to serve the Lord in their family life!

DIFFERENT OPINIONS?

What's the difference? It's probably different in every country and every area, but there are some typical questions that people here have when they are first learning about the gospel. Here are some of the top questions we hear in urban central Mexico:

- *What the difference between your church and the Jehovah's Witnesses or Mormons?*
- *Why are there different Bible versions, and what's the difference?*
- *Why would a God of love allow suffering in the world?*
- *What about the differences between the Old and New Testaments?*
- *Isn't the Bible just a man-made book?*

How would you answer if someone asked you these questions?

NEW SEMESTER(S)

Nathanael started a new semester of school in January. Please pray that he would be able to stay on top of the workload of grade 11!

Jim also began his "second semester" of biblical Greek in January. He has a teacher in Korea and a tutor in the USA – yes, it takes a worldwide effort to get knowledge into his head. ☺

We're planning to start the next semester of **institute classes** in April. This semester, something a little different – Church history!



Above: Rod leading worship music with friends, including Nathanael on the ukulele in the back! It was a blessing to have our coworkers, Rod and Mayra Fry back in Mexico. They are in the USA for a few weeks now to take care of some business, and will Lord willing return in April.

GETTING TOGETHER

We've enjoyed lots of times with friends over the past few weeks – the leadership study, Christmas activities (even a little "virtual" Christmas party with family in Canada!) and youth group (thanks to Frys' hospitality!). On February 18th we'll head out to a church planting workshop, sponsored by our mission.

1 KINGS 18:21

ELIJAH CAME NEAR TO ALL THE PEOPLE AND SAID,

**"HOW LONG WILL YOU GO LIMPING BETWEEN TWO DIFFERENT OPINIONS?
IF THE LORD IS GOD, FOLLOW HIM; BUT IF BAAL, THEN FOLLOW HIM."**

AND THE PEOPLE DID NOT ANSWER HIM A WORD.

VISIT

In our last letter, we mentioned a short term team. For various reasons (not all known to us), they didn't come after all.

But we did get a surprise visit from our friend Guillermo Reddekopp! He and his family are also missionaries in Mexico. It was a short, but great time of fellowship!

NEW BIBLE STUDIES

On Sunday, we split up! Don't worry, nothing bad. The men and the women both discussed starting up regular **Bible studies/prayer times** from now until the summer. It was so encouraging to hear people's desire to be *different* – in a godly way! And many in our church are relatively new. Please pray that God would speak to many through these studies!

Grace & Peace,

*Jim & Shari
Hannah, Nathanael*

THANKS!

Thank you so much to all of you who have been praying for us, supporting the ministry financially, and encouraging us. It was a privilege this past Sunday to remind people in our church that there are people in many parts of the world praying for them as well.

Thanks to those who have donated generously, those who give regularly, and to those who have just started a regular donation. God continues to provide! Pray that all of us would be faithful as we move ever closer to the Lord's return.

APPLYING GOD'S WORD!

In December, we finished our once-a-month series on "**Biblical Anthropology**", covering such topics as artificial intelligence, justice, gender, art, suicide, the environment, and much more. This year Jim is posting the series in Spanish at en-la-Biblia.com, and has also been sharing some material at our blog Finding-direction.com.

Talking with the other preachers, there was a desire to continue something similar this year, with a new theme – "**Family**", starting this month.

♪ Notes of Prayer and Praise ♪

♪ Praise the Lord for the new people who have connected with the church over the past few weeks!

♪ Praise the Lord for God's continued provision for our family and this ministry.

♪ Please continue to pray for Hannah in Canada as she works and plans for the future.

♪ Praise the Lord that Nathanael successfully finished his first semester! He would appreciate your continued prayers.

♪ Please continue to pray for those who are taking leadership in the church, that God would guide them daily.

♪ Please pray that God would continue to transform lives, giving people a hunger to know Him more.

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