



# The Contreras Family Missionaries To Panamá

Febrero 2024

*Apocalipsis 22:12 He aquí yo vengo pronto, y mi galardón conmigo, para recompensar a cada uno según sea su obra.*

Dear Pastor and families of the church, I greet you, hoping in the Lord that you are well and that God continues to bless your lives, family, and ministry in this new year. It is a great joy to share with you what God has allowed us to do during these last two months of the year, January and February 2024.

We concluded the year with a tremendous Christmas and New Year's Eve service celebrating the Lord's Supper, testimonies, three saved people, and great Christian fellowship. In January, 34 brothers from our church traveled 7 hours to participate in the "Fires of Evangelism" conferences in David Chiriquí. It was a great blessing and encouragement for all the brothers. The young people went to Bible camp, and two of them were called full-time to the service of the Lord!

The church continues to grow, and the Lord continues to add to and bless his church by his grace. Between January and February, 182 people have been saved in these first months of the year—more than twenty visitors and nine baptisms. Thank God Leoniel Reyes, husband of Sister Yaribeth Duque, was baptized. He is the police officer who was mentioned in the previous letter who had big family problems, and thank God he now comes to services on Wednesdays and Sundays both in the morning and at night. God has worked powerfully in the life of the new brother. God also worked in the life of Brother Ramiro Duque, and this month he was baptized. He had been very Catholic for many years and had not decided to be saved; he only came to special services when there was food or some promotion. He is Sister Yaribeth's father, and we have seen the hand of God in this family.

Meanwhile, my wife and I won a Venezuelan-Colombian family; she revealed to us that, shortly before we met her, she had made plans to leave her present husband and immigrate to the US with her three daughters. All she was waiting for were some more Venezuelan relatives to travel with them to Mexico and then cross the border. Thank God, God worked in her life, so when we got to her house, we won her over to Christ, they went to church, and she renounced her decision that same week. The new sister, Madelene, is 42 years old, as are her daughters. Ana: 21; Sara: 16; Salome: 13. My wife had spoken with Milagros before we arrived; she accepted Christ, and although she was not living in the house, she did live somewhere else with Madeleine's son, which is how we were able to meet them. Praise the Lord, home by home, we are winning souls there. We witness God's grace in people's lives every week.

This year, in January, we also started an aggressive soul-winning program in public places where there are a lot of people, such as at subway exits, shopping center exits, etc. To get their attention, we give them literature and ask them if they would like to know what are the three things that God CANNOT do; Then, for each one of them who shows interest in knowing what it is about, we explain the gospel to them. 72 people received Christ that first day in that personal evangelism effort. Some brothers who did not dare to speak the gospel yet brought interested people to the soul winners. It was tremendous to see people making their profession of faith and giving testimonies of their problems and their need for God.

Finally, I ask you to pray for the need for a van that we need. The cost is approximately \$14,000, which we need to buy a good van here in Panama. If you wish to support this project, you can do so through Zelle, Bank of America, Pay Pal, or Cash App. The information is at the bottom of this letter.

Thank you again for your financial help and your prayers on behalf of your servants and the missionary work in this country. God bless you!

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