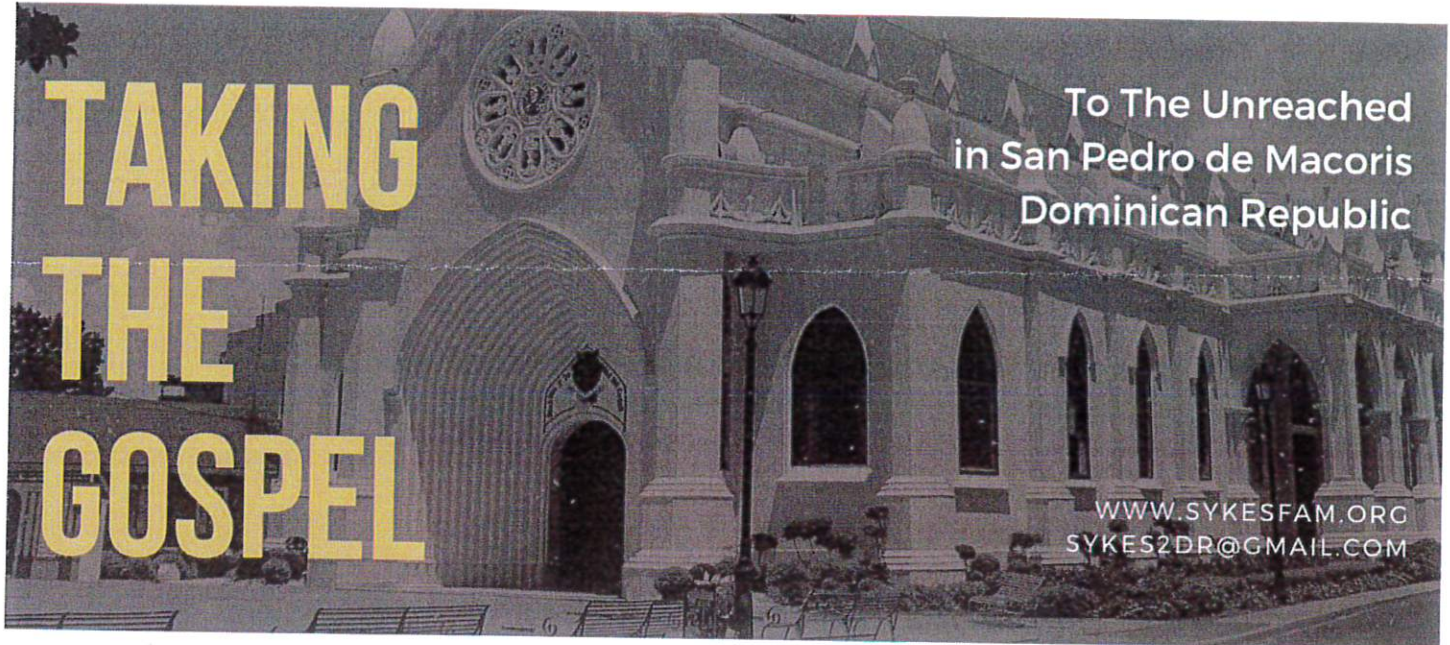


THE SYKES MISSIONARY TIMES

Missionaries to the Dominican Republic



SECOND QUARTER 2023

Greetings from the Dominican Republic, where the dog days of summer are upon us. The heat here is super intense, and energy prices are about twice what they are in the United States. To conserve energy, we only run air conditioners at night, and still, our light bill here has reached close to \$500 per month.

We are thrilled to share that our children completed the school year successfully. They have a few more days before they head home to spend a month with family in the States. We are super proud of their accomplishments and how they finished the year strong.

Sarah and I have been praying for discipleship opportunities, and God has definitely answered our prayers. Recently, He has opened the floodgates, and we are privileged to have a front-row seat to witness how He is changing lives.

We witnessed incredible spiritual transformation through discipleship ministry in Venezuela. We are excited to see God working similarly here in the Dominican Republic. We ask for your prayers as I disciple Miguel, Angel, Nicolas, and Geraldo, and Sarah as she discipless Elena, Maria, Jilary, Christina, and Amelia. Additionally, Sarah has been meeting with a young lady named Natasha, who is yet to surrender her life to Christ. We have witnessed and continue to witness the transforming power of the Word in our own lives and the lives of those whom we are discipling.

"Faithful is he that calleth you, who also will do it."

1 THESSALONIANS 5:24

We count it a privilege to be able to serve the people of the Dominican Republic. We are amazed by God's transforming power and love being a part of expanding His Kingdom!



We are super thankful for this time of spiritual harvest. Still, we are also aware that Satan most certainly will seek to oppose our efforts. We ask for your prayers as we walk alongside these new followers of Jesus. Pray that God grants us wisdom to guide and help each new disciple as they learn to hear and obey His direction in their lives.

We would also appreciate your prayers as our church embarks on new church-planting opportunities in our area. There are numerous places where people cannot commute to our church in San Pedro. Therefore, we are establishing chapels in these areas that will eventually transition into autonomous works. Please pray that God will raise national men to lead and shepherd these new works.

With numerous ministries at hand, it can be easy for us to stretch ourselves too thin. We ask for your prayers that God would grant us wisdom and discernment in each ministry opportunity so that we can make the most significant impact for His kingdom.

If you do not currently support us financially, consider partnering with us financially and prayerfully. Although we have seen God bring new ministry partners alongside us recently, we still need to raise some financial support.

We are incredibly grateful for God's provision and our new partners' faithfulness and sensitivity to the Spirit. We also extend a heartfelt thank you to those who faithfully support us each month through prayer and financial contributions.

Finally, we invite you to consider visiting us and witnessing firsthand the remarkable work God is doing here in the Dominican Republic. We are part of a fantastic ministry team with many more ministry opportunities than we could ever have the time to engage in. God is moving mightily, and the only way to truly appreciate it is to see it yourself.

Once again, we want to express our gratitude to our faithful supporters. We sincerely pray that God blesses you abundantly for your unwavering faithfulness.

San Pedro is nicknamed "the city of the Holy Spirit." There is a strong Pentecostal and charismatic influence, along with 7th Day Adventists and cults such as Jehovah's Witnesses and Mormonism. All of these religions, coupled with traditional Catholicism, have left people confused and still spiritually lost. Many have been part of multiple religions and churches with this in common — either trying to "earn" salvation or trying to "maintain" salvation by their works. It's in this darkness that there is a great opportunity to shine the light of the gospel - the message of salvation by grace through faith in Jesus Christ

- Missionary Gary Hale

PRAYER REQUESTS...

- Please pray that we can raise additional support as soon as possible
- Pray for a new believers who are growing in their faith
- Pray for all of our new discipling opportunities