

# Lonnie C. Smith, Jr. & Martha Missionaries in Guadalajara, Mexico

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Home Church:  
Hallmark Baptist Church  
Pastor Mike Haley  
Ft. Worth, Texas

Field Address:  
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Zapopan, Jalisco, Mexico

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Dear Pastor and Friends:

We are all familiar with Psalms 23:4 – “Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.” As you all know, there is evil in this world. I am sure what you hear in the news does not even begin to tell the story. We praise the Lord that the pastor and his brother from Tamaulipas who were kidnapped last month were rescued. However, in the city of Celaya another pastor was assaulted and shot to death. In our neighboring state of Michoacan, an evangelistic team made up of 6 young men is being held by armed men as we write this letter. Four different family men who are members of Living Word Baptist Church have been robbed at gunpoint in the past few months! We continue to work and move about this metropolis knowing that the good Lord is our Shepherd and He is with us. I am in the process of preparing a message for our people entitled: What Would You Do If You Were Kidnapped?

Mrs. Vicky Sandoval – One of our families asked us to visit this dear lady who was bedfast; her body invaded by cancer. Every Tuesday morning we would go and spend 2 hours with her sharing the Word and singing. She received Christ as her Saviour and gave a good testimony. She passed away 2 weeks ago and I was allowed to preach at her wake. Several prayed the sinner's prayer at the end of my message. Her husband, who also made a profession of faith but wouldn't leave her side, attended church the Sunday after her funeral and stood up and thanked us for investing our time in them. Praise the Lord! That's why we are here! Since we last wrote, there have been 5 professions of faith and 4 have followed the Lord in baptism.

Special request – As you know, we seldom try to raise funds for personal projects. We do mention things from time to time and we pray and make plans. In 1998, we purchased a Ford Contour, which we continue to drive. However, it is not as reliable as it used to be and as my dad used to say: “It's time to update the fleet”. I have saved \$3,000 (three thousand dollars) and would like to raise at least \$10,000 (ten thousand dollars) more for a newer vehicle. If you are able to help us with any kind of special offering for this, it will be very much appreciated. Continuing in the work...

'Til Jesus Comes,

  
Lonnie C. Smith, Jr.

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