

February 17, 2010



**"...Although I have afflicted you, I will afflict you no more" (Nahum 1:12)**

There is a limit to our affliction. God sends it and then removes it. Do you complain, saying, "When will this end?" May we quietly wait and patiently endure the will of the Lord till He comes. Our Father takes away the rod when His purpose in using it is fully accomplished.

If the affliction is sent to test us so that our words would glorify God, it will only end once He has caused us to testify to His praise and honor. In fact, we would not want the difficulty to depart until God has removed from us all the honor we can yield to Him.

Today things may become "completely calm" (Matt. 8:26). Who knows how soon these raging waves will give way to a sea of glass with seagulls sitting on the gentle swells?

After a long ordeal, the threshing tool is on its hook, and the wheat has been gathered into the barn. Before much time has passed, we may be just as happy as we are sorrowful now.

It is not difficult for the Lord to turn night into day. He who sends the clouds can just as easily clear the skies. Let us be encouraged--things are better down the road. *Let us sing God's praises in anticipation of things to come. Charles Spurgeon*

"The Lord of the harvest" (Luke 10:2) is not always threshing us. His trials are only for a season, and the showers soon pass. "Weeping may remain for a night, but rejoicing comes in the morning" (Psalm 30:5). "Our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all" (2Cor. 4:17). Trials do serve their purpose.

Even the fact that we face a trial proves there is something very precious to our Lord in us, or else He would not spend so much time and energy on us. Christ would not test us if He did not see the precious metal of faith mingled with the rocky core of our nature, and it is to refine us

into purity and beauty that He forces us through the fiery ordeal.

Be patient, O sufferer! The result of the Refiner's fire will more than compensate for our trials, once we see the "eternal glory that far outweighs them all." Just to hear His commendation, "Well done" (Matt. 25:21); to be honored before the holy angels; to be glorified in Christ, so that I may reflect His glory back to Him--ah! That will be more than enough reward for all my trials.  
*From Tried by Fire*

Just as the weights of a grandfather clock, or the stabilizers in a ship, are necessary for them to work properly so are troubles to the soul. The sweetest perfumes are obtained only through tremendous pressure, the fairest flowers grow on the most isolated and snowy peaks, the most beautiful gems are those that have suffered the longest at the jeweler's wheel, and the most magnificent statues have endured the most blows from the chisel. All of these, however, are subject to God's law. Nothing happens that has not been *appointed* with consummate care and foresight. *From Daily Devotional Commentary*

This, I felt, was written just for you and me, my sweet and most loved daughter Rochelle. I know it is hard to see beyond the painful thoughts and realization of the present circumstances, and just the very thought of having sweet Levi go through such pain and suffering makes our hearts bleed, but we have to hang on to the unfailing promises of our heavenly Father.

Well, I am sorry I have not been very faithful in writing to many of you, dear friends and faithful co-laborers in this task our Lord has set in front of us to do. I will share some of things that went on last week.



As you know, we had two families come and share with us and others their amazing talents the Lord has gifted them with, the Balyeats and the Schuberts. Last Wednesday (February 10th) they had the opportunity to play in the Kiosk in Alamos (picture above to the right). Yes, Marilú was

there singing with the Schuberts as they sang some worship songs in Spanish.



The next day, early in the morning, we went to the prison in Navojoa and had an amazing opportunity to share with the inmates there. This jail is a lot smaller than the one in Obregón, but we had quite a lot of people there listening intently, one of them being the director, a real nice man that treated us great. That afternoon we had the opportunity to share in the main plaza in Navojoa. We sowed the seed, it is the Lord who moves the hearts and makes the changes. We do pray for lasting fruit!





I hope my friend Edith continues to be my friend after she sees I have posted her picture here!  
She came to hear the music when we went to Alamos.



The two families left on Friday (February 12th) to continue their tour south and Marilú had the great privilege to go with them to be the translator for the Balyeats . We know this was of the Lord and we rejoice knowing He has a perfect plan for her life.



**Daniel's perspective:** God is so good to us and He sent us refreshment by way of these two families. I was especially blessed to see how their children all seem so much younger than they are. Actually, that's only when you compare them to the ones that surround them. So many people struggling to reflect movie stars, rock stars and the "in crowd" lose their chance to live their lives, while trying to live the lives of others who truly aren't worth imitating. I thank the Lord that He has given us people who really are worth imitating. Who are they? Those that are living their lives imitating Jesus! *Therefore be imitators of God as dear children. (Ephesians 5:1)*

So, keep your eyes on Jesus. Remember, the moon nor the earth have light of their own. They only reflect the light from the sun. We likewise have no light of our own but have the great privilege of reflecting the light of the Son!

**"Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven"** (Matthew 5:16).

#### PRAYER REQUESTS FOR RANCHO MARANATHA, ALAMOS, MX.

Please keep Brian & Rochelle in your prayers as they face fiery trials concerning trying to detect what it is Levi is allergic to. The doctors are saying these allergies are affecting his esophagus, but since he shows no external signs, it will be much more complicated to identify. The procedures are complicated and painful. Without detecting the cause of these allergies and finding a way to cure them, Levi cannot have the surgery to remove his trachea. We know it is the Lord the one that has total control of all things, so we ask that you would continue to intercede for precious Levi. We are so thankful for his awesome disposition, he is always so happy and content. We praise our Lord knowing His plans are perfect, his purposes cannot be thwarted.

Pray for Marilú as she is away at this time for the Lord to continue to work in her life and accomplish His purposes as He sees fit.

Pray for the women's retreat coming up April 2. We have been inviting lots of ladies. We want to lift the name of the Lord high, we are praying for souls to be won for Him!  
Pray for Paul & Ruth and the people coming from MN next week. For travel mercies for them, and for them to be blessed as they bless us!

We love you all,

*Daniel & Ana*