

◆ The Garcia Gazette

Reaching Mexico and the Nations for Jesus

September 2020

Link International
Ministries



Pablo & Martha Garcia
Serving with LIM at the
church "La Gran Comisión" in
Ensenada Mexico

Reaching Mexico and
the Nations for Jesus

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Dear family and friends,

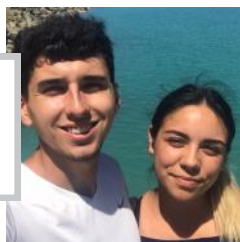
It has now been 6 months that we have been in quarantine, as you all have been. We have gone through the emotional ups and downs of being at home constantly, seeing the people that we minister to only through Zoom... keeping up with our responsibilities here on the field with a completely different way of doing things. It has been a bittersweet time. We have gotten caught up with things that we only dreamed of being able to do... We haven't travelled during these months, so we have been able to recoup our physical fatigue... We are deeply missing the "in-person" interaction with people... We have watched as 4 pastors in our community have died (3 from COVID), 3 worship leaders in the community have been hospitalized and intubated – 1 living and the other 2 passing away... A nurse from our church family died... Three complete families in our church getting sick with COVID, one right after the other, but all having non-severe cases...and we watched and waited and prayed with each of these people and their families – sometimes grieving with them and other times rejoicing...

Our small group

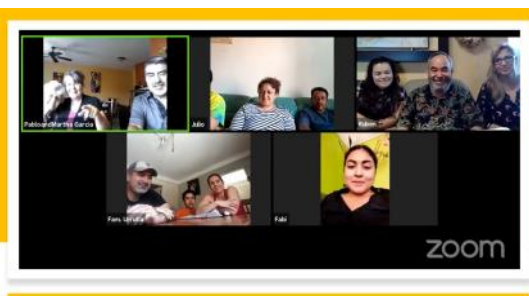


Our church, our marriage counseling, our small group and the youth have all moved to Zoom! People are growing, and it is surprising how deep our conversations and teaching time can get while looking at the computer screen! We thank God for technology that has allowed us to be in a world where our isolation is not complete.

A couple we have
been counseling



At our church, the majority of our members do not have Wi-Fi in their homes – but social media such as Facebook is a freebie when you buy data for your phone. So, we use Zoom for the actual service, and mostly only a few families are on live together, but the remainder of the church family watches the livestream on FB. At the end of every service there is much throwing of kisses and hugs as we say goodbye.



Our church will not go back to live services until our city is at Green light... which seems a long way off as all the border cities remain in Red due to the continual crossing of people on the border and the lack of a slowing in cases.



Pablo's men's group has not been able to meet because the men that met together, for the most part, do not have Wi-Fi. So instead, Pablo has been calling them on a regular basis to ask them about their lives and the situations they are facing. He encourages them. He prays with them.

The city still has not allowed team sports to begin so all of Pablo's soccer players are "waiting at the gates" for the go ahead!

We steadfastly believe that though the world is in physical and political unrest, we are to use this time to pray more, to be in His word, to invest in people in a smaller, more intimate way... and to wait.



1 Chronicles 16:11 (NLT)

Search for the LORD and for his strength; continually seek him.

Thank you so much for your prayers. Thank you for your faithful financial support. We pray God's blessings on you and your families.

PRAYER REQUEST:

For the many families that we personally know both here, in the US and in Cuba that have suffered during these months. For their grieving and financial stress and that they would remain strong in their faith.



Pablo & Martha

**NEWS FROM HOME:**

★ Because of the lower amount of summer activity, Martha's mom was able to come in the summer instead of waiting until November!

★ Jacob's job had a slow down in the end of August, so he came for a visit! We had to be careful because of having mom at home, so our visit looked a little different! Nevertheless, memories were made. Good food was shared. Games were often and competitive! Laughter and meaningful conversations were had... We thank God for the gift of family.

Proverbs 25:25. Good news from far away is like cold water to the thirsty.