

Leonel Arriaga

Ministering in El Salvador,

Central America



April 2017

"The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient towards you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance."

2 Peter 3:9

Thank you for praying with me and asking God to open doors that we may preach the Gospel in the city. This month we had an activity with the youth of one of the biggest schools in Santa Ana. About 80% of the youth that attend this school are a part of the gangs. The P.E. teacher and I prepared a class to help us get close to the kids. We divided them up between girls and boys and by grade. We had about 60 students in attendance that afternoon. At the beginning of the activity I was not sure how to approach them because of the high risk of danger and aggression. The Lord gave me peace and I knew we were there in His name. We prayed for grace before beginning the activity because we had heard from the teacher of dangerous experiences they had had in the past. We began with a time of singing and then I opened the Word to minister to their hearts. At first there was much apathy, but as the lesson went on they began to slowly pay attention. I felt intimidated at times, with reason. Many of them have a double life; they only attend school to hide from the police and to recruit new members to do evil. The Word of God was preached and then we had some fun with the soccer ball. I am sure this will be a long process, to earn their trust, but the best thing to do is to play soccer with them. At the end of the afternoon we had made new friends, and we also had the opportunity to speak of Christ to many. I am confident that with much prayer and



dedication we can rescue some from the clutches of the enemy. Their hearts are currently full of wickedness, both in murder as well as violent thoughts. Let us continue to pray for these valuable lives.



Go and make disciples...

In the middle of an illness three years ago, Eugenio came to know the Lord. I had the privilege of taking him to the feet of Jesus while he lay in the hospital bed. The Lord showed him mercy and healed him, with a great purpose in mind, I am sure. At the beginning of this year he asked me if we could start a Bible study in his home. His desire was for his family to come to know Jesus and to be able to reach out to his friends. After figuring out a schedule we have been able to meet now for two months and the group continues to grow. We are currently 25 studying the Bible together. Most of them have not yet made a profession of faith. Every Thursday we meet at Eugenio's house which is just outside the city limits. We are excited for the opportunity we have had. One of the people that come is my friend's mother. She has wanted nothing to do with Jesus in the past. Please pray with me that each person will come to repentance.



We are preparing for training on how to work more effectively in our children's and youth ministries. The beginning of May, Jonathan Owen, children's pastor at Shades Mountain Independent Church in Birmingham, Alabama will come to Santa Ana to give us this seminar. My focus in the coming months is to train as many as possible, parents, teachers, the church as a whole, so we will be better equipped to care for children and for youth that they may come to the feet of Jesus. Our hope is to rescue them from the violence and destruction so present in our city. My burden is to invest in the future generation, because as of today, it is a dark future that awaits them. Pray with me that this training will glorify God.

Two new converts

José Mancía and Veronica Ramirez are two new converts from an activity we had last month. I am excited and encouraged in their discipleship and spiritual growth. These are two adults who have gone through difficult moments but the Lord has shown His mercy to them. Glory be to God for their salvation!

Prayer Requests:

- . Pray for continual opportunities to reach more for Christ in the ministry here
- . Pray for my health, I have been having intestinal problems and am asking for the Lord's healing
- . Pray for the children and youth ministries. Our prayer is that they will be rescued before it's too late.

Thank you for your prayers for my life and my ministry.

God Bless you.

In Him,

Leonel Arriaga

WORLD  REACH

Questions?

Contact us at:
P.O. Box 26155
Birmingham, AL 35260-0155
E-mail: info@world-reach.org
Phone: (205) 979-2400
Also, check out our website at
World-reach.org



Like Us On Facebook

www.facebook.com/worldreachinc

Follow Us On

twitter 

[@WorldReachIntl](https://twitter.com/WorldReachIntl)