

Maria Velez

PRAYER LETTER FEBRUARY - MAY 2022

**I glorified you on earth, having accomplished
the work that you gave me to do.**

- John 17:4 -

This verse has been embedded in my mind recently. Jesus' words in this magnificent prayer reveal how clear His priorities were during His days on earth. Jesus had glorified the Father not by accomplishing the work God gave to John the Baptist, or Mary, or any of the 12, not by accomplishing the work others thought He should accomplish, but by accomplishing the work God had specifically given Him.

I wonder... have our hours, days, weeks, months, and years been used to fulfill the work He has specifically given us? God has provided all the resources to make it happen, but have we used them wisely or have we been distracted by using them for our own purposes? God help us and as Jonathan Edwards said, "seal in our eyelids eternity" to stay focused on what really matters: His glory, which is what we were created for.

From February to May, God has been working in different places and I have had the wonderful opportunity to join Him. I will share with you some of the highlights, and I'm grateful for your willingness to read this letter.

Teaching, Evangelism, and Discipleship



AGAP, the foundation where I have been teaching the Bible to women and teens, held a health and evangelism day. I oversaw the evangelism section for 50-60 children 8-12 years old.

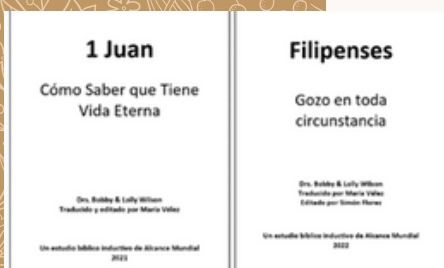
I don't think I have ever repeated the gospel message as many times. It was incredibly uplifting for me to be reminded of Jesus' sacrifice. I long for the Holy Spirit to work in the hearts of these little ones. Many showed an understanding that because of their sinful condition they were alienated from God and of Jesus' role in our reconciliation with God. Amazing!

This generation is being bombarded with hundreds of ideals that bring confusion into their lives, so the best way to love our little ones is to bring them the light, clarity and freedom that only the Gospel offers. Let us pray for this generation!

I was invited by a group of women to teach two lessons on Priorities and Circumstances from the book, Lies Women Believe: And the Truth that Sets Them Free. Pray for Gisella. She genuinely shared her questions, and opinions, but at the same time was willing to receive the truths of God's word.



Translation



The translation to Spanish, of the inductive Bible study of Philippians and the final revision of 1 John and the Psalms studies was also done.

We are happy to provide Biblical materials for the Spanish speaking church and pray that they will bear fruit. If you know someone who speaks Spanish and would like to study the Bible, please do not hesitate to contact us. We will be happy to share this material.

Training process

I have successfully completed my second level in Biblical counseling. The relevant topics were marriage, conflict resolution in marriage, parenting, psychological diagnoses, and how to discern God's will. I am incredibly excited and hope in the future to be used in either counseling and/or teaching other women how to counsel Biblically. I believe it is incredibly needed in Latin America.



God also gave me the opportunity to attend an in-depth Biblical counseling conference on the topic of finances with Jim Newheiser as one of the teachers. The way we manage our money reflects significantly about the condition of our hearts, what we value and, our understanding of the Gospel. Let us remember God is the owner, we are stewards.

My home Church



Seeing my church awaken to missions and join God's purpose and being part of that process has been a delight. The youngest in the church to the oldest adult has had the opportunity to participate. We say in the church: there is a space in the great commission that has your name on it!

The mission's group of the church conducted a beautiful 8-week class about the realities of the persecuted church.

We hope to encourage prayer for the persecuted and bring us courage to be light and salt in our world with the Gospel.

Also, led by the women's group of the church, a bazaar was held to raise funds for the mission trips scheduled for this year. It was an event that mobilized the whole church and was a Latin style activity, filled with lots of food, color, and smiles.



Prayer Request:

- For this new stage of living alone (I moved into my own apartment in April)
- For more opportunities to share the word of God and the gospel to others
- For the World Reach missionary retreat in Medellin-Colombia at the end of July
- To faithfully continue my training in counseling

Thank you for praying and being part of what God is doing in Colombia.

María Vélez

If you would like to partner with a one-time gift or recurring monthly gifts to provide the support I must raise for the mission of World Reach to serve in Colombia, here is more information on how to do so:

To donate online, go to world-reach.org/donate to give once or set up a monthly gift via credit card. We also offer the option to give monthly via an Electronic Funds Transfer from your bank account. This is our preferred method because you will incur no third-party processing fee, and the transfer can be set up by going to world-reach.org/donate and clicking on "EFT Giving" at the top of the page. To give by check made payable to World Reach, mail to the address below with a note indicating your preference for supporting "Maria Velez ministry":



World Reach. P.O. Box 26155- Birmingham, AL 35260-0155