



the Gibsons

P. O. Box 2136, Mission, TX 78573-2136

Phone: (956) 585-1292, E-Mail: gibson.iehi@att.net; www.iehministries.org

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“For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my way, saith the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts”

Isaiah 55:8,9

During the last few weeks we have been tested and tried as we watched our dear friends and co-workers of over 40 years go through the hardest trial of their lives. Maybe some of you will remember that we have requested prayer for Pastor Juan Molina as he was battling some very serious health problems. In June, Bro. Juan had surgery in Mexico to remove a growth in his left ear. Through the months he continued in bad health. On August 8, after getting very frustrated with the Mexican doctors telling them there was nothing wrong with him, the family brought Bro. Juan to the US side of the border with hopes of getting a diagnosis and the help he needed. When the US doctors first saw him they said it was a miracle that Bro. Juan had not suffered a severe stroke or even died. Bro. Juan was unable to speak, swallow, turn his head without pain or even walk. The doctors in Brownsville then ran many tests including a spinal tap. It was then that they realized that the infection that had invaded his body after the surgery (that the US doctors said was very badly done) to remove the growth in his ear, had now returned with a vengeance and had gone into his whole body, including his brain. On Wednesday, August 16, the doctors in Brownsville realized they had done all they could for him, so the family was preparing to transport him back to Reynosa, Mexico by ambulance. However that morning, the Lord had other plans and in His great mercy He took Bro. Juan to his Heavenly Reward.



During the week Bro. Juan was in Brownsville, we spent three days with them at the hospital. We counted it a privilege to be able to spend time with them, being able to pray, read Scripture, encourage, and even cry with them. Because of the change of circumstances, many phone calls were made to coordinate with both US and Mexican funeral homes to take the body back to Mexico.

In 1975, we were having special meetings in Reynosa. Every night the Molinas attended the services realizing Christ was the answer to their problems. (They were on the verge of divorce). During that week, they surrendered their lives to the Lord. Not long after, Bro. Juan started attending a Bible school to prepare himself for the ministry. He had been serving the Lord faithfully ever since. We always rejoiced as we saw Bro. Juan's heart for the people and their need of a Savior.

Please **pray** for Leonor as she faces life without her partner and love of 45 years. Her heart's desire is to somehow continue the literature ministry in which Bro. Juan had been involved for years. He would regularly come to our place, load up his vehicle with Spanish Scriptures and tracts and take them back to their home to distribute to those that would come for literature. This was such a valuable ministry and God greatly used it for His glory. Please **pray** for their four daughters and their families also. They were all very close to Bro. Juan.

It has been a real blessing to work with many pastors in church planting in Mexico for these many years. There has been much fruit and the Lord has abundantly blessed.

Yesterday we received word from our daughter-in-law that their oldest daughter, Katelyn Grace (8 yrs. old), had an accident and fell face down on the cement on the outdoor patio. She had an ugly tear in the corner of her mouth/top lip and knocked out her front permanent teeth. Last evening yet they were able to find a plastic surgeon that would sew up her lip. **Pray** this does not leave an ugly scar. The Lord led them to a great dentist that believes she can help them with the broken/knocked out teeth. **Pray** for wisdom for AJ and Ruth and the doctors as they work with Katelyn's situation. Also, Katelyn is scheduled to start school on Monday.

Thank you so very much for your faithfulness in praying and supporting this ministry. We count each one of you as co-laborers in what God has called us to do. May God continue to bless and use each of you for His glory in 2017.

Serving together with you for His grace and glory,

Duane and Marilyn

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“For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry...” (Ephesians 4:11)