



the Gibsons

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As we face a new year, we look forward to what the Lord has for us in 2018—new opportunities, new challenges, and new things for which to praise the Lord. It's always exciting when we begin a new year. We look forward, with anticipation to what He has ahead for us. Is this the year our Lord will return? Will we see the Lord manifest Himself in great and mighty ways this year? The Lord has given the promise in Habakkuk 1:5b, "...for I will work a work in your days, which you will not believe, though it be told you." Whatever comes, God has great things ahead, and we know we can trust Him with our lives for what lies ahead.

One thing we always anticipate in January is ordering our VBS materials for the summer activities. As of now, we have been able to order materials for 83,000 children and 2,000 teachers. We had been challenged to order more materials this year, but we will only order more if sufficient funds are received. This year the theme will be Abraham. Our dear friend and co-worker, Trinidad Garza, again plans to make the trip to CA to pick up the materials for us. We are so thankful for generous hands and hearts that make these valuable materials available to pastors and Christian workers each year. **Pray** for faithful teachers and open hearts to receive the message of His Word through these lessons.

Recently we received a very encouraging letter from Israel in Honduras. He wrote:

"My family and I want to tell you that we have been so happy and blessed of the Lord because of the Bible lessons you have been sending us. They have been such a blessing to my spiritual life and that of my family. Please continue sending me these lessons."

The first weekend in February we will be holding the first marriage retreat of 2018. These retreats are always such a fun time for teachers and couples alike. It is a time to get away from the 'care of the world' and be refreshed spiritually and physically. Please **pray** for us as we prepare our classes for this retreat and for the couples that attend. May God use this time to be a challenge and encouragement and an instrument to prepare them to be more effective in what God has for them. Also, please **pray** for Marilyn as she has the huge responsibility of taking pictures and then putting the pictures in book form for the couples that attend the retreat. (She has to do this and have the books ready before the couples leave to go home).

We are so thankful for the help and encouragement we have received through the willing hands and hearts of Jon and Bert Schweitzer from NE. They have been with us for a little over a week and have been able to get our lawnmowers in good running condition and helped with so many other areas of the ministry.

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 the time that remains in 2018.



Serving together with you for His grace and glory,

Duane and Marilyn