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Indigenous Church Planting Training National Pastors Evangelism/Discipleship <u>VITAL STATS on the DR</u> <u>Population: 10,000,415 +</u> 95% Roman Catholic

Dear Faithful Supporters,

January 2016

CASTING NETS: It is hard to believe that this year will be our seventeenth year serving the Lord on Dominican soil, and twenty years as missionaries. The new year started out wonderful for our mission here in the Dominican Republic.

Meet Señora Brigida Vargas. This sweet Dominican lady attended the last two of our home Bible studies. And today she came to church. Her testimony is that this is the very first time in her entire life that she has ever darkened a door of a church! Never, never, never before!! And upon hearing a salvation message about the woman at the well, Brigidaaccepted the Lord as her personal Savior. Won't you please help us pray for Brigida's spiritual growth?



This is Teresa. This is the third time she has attended our church services here in the Dominican Republic. On Feb. 7, it was my honor to lead her to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ following the morning preaching service. Please pray for Teresa as she desires to live for the Lord.



Recently, someone confronted me and said it would be impossible to build a Baptist Church in our area. The person tried to persuade me that another denomination was overtaking the area. I kindly explained that we are not in competition with anyone. And if we trust the Lord and just do His bidding, He will come through in His timing and not ours. So I challenged the dear lady to invite some neighbors to her house for a Bible study and that I would be there to lead the study. So we casted a net near the church. Lo and behold, 11 neighbors attended! Not only that, one of the neighbors wants a Bible study in her home next week!

Then remember we casted a net at a local car wash. The Lord opened the door to hold a weekly Bible study with some of the workers. One of the men, Antony (pronounced AN TOW NEE) called this past week and said he is "devouring' the Bible that we gave him. He now wants to attend one of our regular services.

Here is a photo of this lovely young Dominican family.

God has been so good! Two adults received Christ as personal Savior and four other converts will be following the Lord in believer's baptism next week. Kelvin, one of our Dominican men, is praying about being a Sunday School teacher. Edward, who is very faithful to the services brought his girl friend to church last week. This was truly an answer to prayer. Three weeks ago we had a record attendance of 59.

We are more excited than ever about what the Lord is doing here on this tropical island in the Caribbean Sea. We want to express our sincere appreciation for your faithful prayer and financial support through the years.

Manifold Blessing for the New Year!! Ron and Kathy Valerio

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