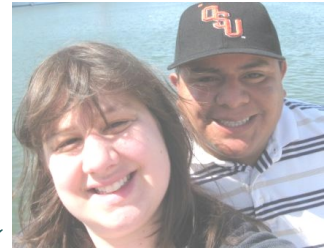


# The Mountains Will Move . . . Matthew 17:20

## The Ventura Lewis Family (Buky & Theresa)

### Serving with Mexican Medical at La Esperanza

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### **Happy Spring!**

Happy spring to everyone from Clínica La Esperanza! It is hard to believe that April is quickly approaching, and that this is our first newsletter of 2014. Please be assured that our lack of communication has not been due to a lack of ministry—quite the contrary, we have been very busy with weekly women's Bible study and the children's Bible club, as well as tutoring. However, we do apologize for not keeping you better informed, because you deserve to be kept up to date. We could not carry on this ministry without your prayers and financial support, and we desire for you to be able to pray into areas that need lots of prayer coverage and rejoice with us over the good things that God has done.

### **Unexpected News**

Back in the fall, we found out the heartbreaking news at the doctor's office that 11-year-old Ana María was pregnant. Buky and I were there to hold Ana María and her mother, Consuelo, during their time of grief. We acted as mediators to convince the grandparents to let Ana María stay, to show love and

to forgive. I can only credit God with the strength and love that we had to comfort not only Ana María, but her whole family during this painful time.

Believe us in the fact that we did not take this situation lightly. We grieved for Ana María as if she were our own child. At the same time, life had to move on. Ana María did not want to go to school and the school felt it was safer for her to stay at home with a high-risk pregnancy. Ana María has grown more responsible in this time, as she helps clean her house and babysits her brother and cousins.

I have taken Ana María to her doctor appointments, lab tests and ultrasounds throughout her pregnancy. I have never been involved with a pregnancy before and I am in awe of God's process of life! We have heard the heart beat and seen the pictures of Ana María's healthy baby girl. Consuelo cried for joy when she saw the last 4-d ultrasound picture. The baby's due date is May 12<sup>th</sup>. We would really appreciate your prayers for Ana María and her baby.

### **School Days**

Another situation that we encountered was that Ana María's twin, Estefanía, was really

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struggling with school. When Estefanía first started school, she was in and out of school because she was taking care of her brother Ricardo while her mother worked in the fields. Last school year, she finished first grade. Then this year, they bumped her from 3rd to 4<sup>th</sup> grade, so she would be able to finish grade school before she turned 15. Originally, Estefanía would have had the help of Ana María in her class, but after the pregnancy, she was on her own. Estefanía was not able to focus in the classroom, was not turning in homework, and was missing a lot of school. She was ready to quit school all together. So, we decided to intervene.

In order to make sure that Estefanía was going to school, we decided to start taking her to school every morning. This has turned into a precious time with her, her sister, Enequina, and their cousin, Alan. When we get to school, we take time to pray and listen to a short devotional message. Then we share why we are thankful to God or talk about something positive. This has helped the children to have better attitudes.

Although it varies, due to our schedule, I have been trying to work with Estefanía as many days out of the week as I can. We work on her homework together and practice

reading and basic math. I have seen improvements in her skills and she has more confidence and an ambition to work hard. We worked on a history assignment together and she scored 9.5 out of 10 and got two stars. She was so happy that she laughed! So, we hope this is a permanent turn-around in her schooling and we continue to plan to be there to help her along the way.



Left: Estefanía and Ana María's twelfth birthday celebration in October.

## Extreme House Makeover

We were so thankful to find out that Consuelo's family was chosen to receive a house by another ministry in our area, One Life One Chance. This ministry specializes in house building.

For a year and a half, Consuelo was living in a room made of sticks, cardboard, and plastic. It housed one bed, her kitchen, and boxes with their clothes. Consuelo and two of her children slept there, while her other three daughters slept in another building on her grandparents' property.

Before the team came in to build the house, Buky and a team tore down the old house and then helped the other ministry pour a



Above: Buky's brother, Maurilio, and nephew, Coco, help tear down Consuelo's old house.

foundation. This last week, a team from Canada came to build the house. The new house is pink and has three bedrooms and a

kitchen/dining area.

The dedication of the house was last Friday. The team shared their prayers for the family and Buky shared with the family about building our lives on the foundation of Jesus Christ. When the youth pastor, Jeff, handed Consuelo a Bible and the keys to their new house, the whole family was in tears—tears of gratitude. It was certainly a moving experience, especially after all this family has gone through. The family loved their new house! They will finally be able to live and sleep under the same

roof. It was truly a gift from God!



Above (from left to right): Consuelo, Estefanía, Consuelo, Ana María, Ricardo, and Enedina in their new kitchen.

**Please Pray For . . .**

- **Ana María and her baby - That she would have a smooth delivery and that mother and daughter would be healthy.**
- **Children's Bible Club - As we draw near to Easter, that the children would understand the message of the cross and Jesus' resurrection.**
- **Summer teams - That God would be preparing our hearts for this time of ministry.**

**Upcoming Ministry Events**

- **Thursday evenings: Women's Bible study**
- **Saturday mornings: Children's Bible club**
- **June: Summer groups begin to arrive**



Above: Consuelo's new house!

<b>Contact Information for Theresa &amp; Buky</b>	
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For correspondence: include c/o Theresa Lewis with address above.	Mexican Medical office: 619-463-4777  E-mail: theresamarielw@yahoo.com