

Then one poor widow came and threw in two mites... see Mark 12:41-44

Dear loved ones,

What was the widow thinking when she came to the Temple that day? Did she wish she was rich? Did she think her offering was insignificant? Or that *she* was insignificant? Did she wonder if God saw her? If He cared about her? If He noticed her at all? All that I have seems to be so little sometimes. Wishing I was different, more naturally outgoing, more charismatic, smarter, stronger, the list goes on...doesn't help matters any. Since, as Pastor Chayo says "Wishing doesn't exist." And so we continue to work amidst our weaknesses. Amidst our limitations. Amidst the powerful enemies. In the midst of the heat of all forms and the pain of temporary uncertainties. There is another question more interesting and productive for me to ponder...What will God do with my offering? With our offering?

And so we cling to Him, understanding that apart from Him...we can do nothing. We cling with anticipation and trust. Was she desperate? Exhausted? At peace? We do not know the thoughts that she had as she went to the treasury that day to give. She could have never possibly imagined that her seemingly meager offering would inspire me yet again in this letter to you some 2,000 years later. She knew Who to give to. God. She also knew what to give. All. We also know that the Lord knew every detail of her life and gift. And that He used her as an example and les-

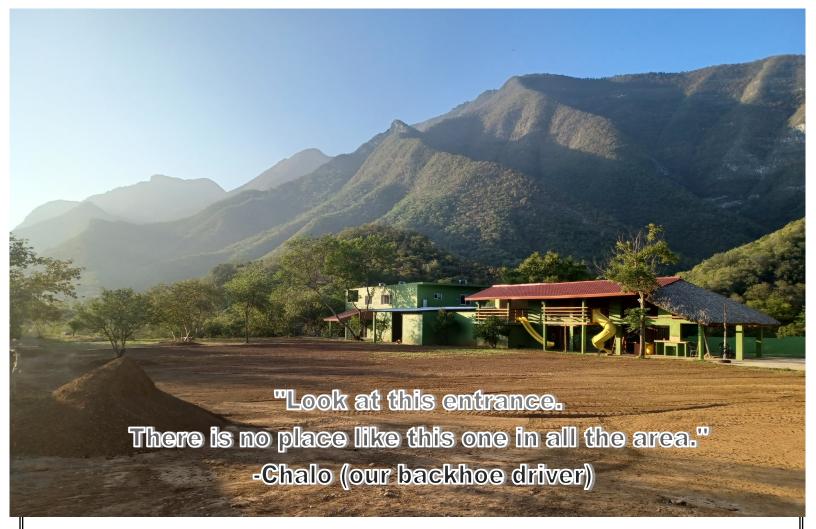
son for us and countless others. Her life passed quickly as is yours and mine. And so what will we give? And more importantly, what will He do with the offering? Look at that widow...

and behold what Jesus did with the offering.





This is our new main entrance! And the back page is some of what they will see upon entering the facility! Over 400' of wall done, about 100' to go!



Let the grass grow and let the harvest come through the gates!

What a long journey it has been to, finally, get the top soil on our field of dreams. We have moved a lot of dirt once again these last couple months, and advanced on the wall and entrance in spite of the relentless plus 100 degree heat! None of the thousands that pass by this mission will be able to miss it's invitation to come unto Him! Lord willing, thousands more will enter these gates to be encouraged and some others will enter these gates and enter by faith into eternal life!

And speaking of gates...We need to build the gate, pour the entrance, and continue with about 100 more feet of wall across the front of the facility! More than 400 feet of wall has been constructed along our NE side and main entrance...Then we'll plant some trees and place some benches and form the walkways...Of course we continue construction while serving and hosting. My favorite moment of these past couple months came at a pastor's conference we hosted. I preached, Minnie did her thing, and our son Sam, daughter Jackelyn, and niece Karen (each with their own miraculous stories of grace) prepared the special meal all through the night to serve our Lord and the pastors. We received many commentaries and thanks from the group. And we may never know all the extent of the offering. **Thank you all for your care of us. God bless you and keep you.**

Praise Report!

We are advancing with the paperwork on this land. We have now closed with the 6 minority owners and seem very near to finishing this probate process to close. Thank you for all those praying for this process.

Please pray for Pamela. She is a new student at Berea and we are sponsoring her. She lost her daddy unexpectantly last year, and we are glad to step in on your behalf with this encouragement.

We also sent Sam and Jackelyn to care for a woman with stage 4 cancer whose husband recently left her and their 8 year old daughter. And also to encourage a blind woman who is caring for her family. We sent quilts and food, school supplies and love.

As I close this letter, many of you have been praying for a sabbatical/time of rest for Minnie and me. Thank you. We are waiting for a permit for Minnie to be able to visit Canada with me. We do not have the answer, but I want you to know that your giving and obvious care for us has meant so so much. God bless you.

Donations can be sent to: FMLI		
PO Box 531606	Rejoice, truly the best is yet to come.	Keen smiling And love from
Harlingen, TX 78553	Rejoice, il uly the best is yet to come.	Gary and Minnie and Sophia,
Email garysandmann@yahoo.com		
Call 715-821-1014 Gary's cell		along with all your family in Mexico.