

The Oshua McClure Family Serving in the CNMI

Dear Praying Family,

First Baptist Church's theme is "Thrive in 2025." The Lord has been working on me to lead in not just being alive but thriving in life for Christ. It is exciting to look back and see how God has worked in lives and to know that we are currently matured to a point of reaching out to others. Young Christians have grown and others have taught; now it is time to reach out to new people and start new bible studies. I strive to identify and utilize any opportunities I can to share the Gospel to anyone I come in contact with while praying God gives me the words. Whether the bag boy, pump attendant, or someone I run into for whatever reason, I try to put God in my conversation and sow seeds wherever I go. You never know how God will use that seed sown.

Exciting development: In 2011, my grandparents procured a lease on a large property for the church to meet on and for us to live on. Therefore, after going to the appropriate office to make payments every month I have been coming in contact with a young man named Fred Cruz, who is Catholic because that is the way he was raised and really it's the culture out here. *Many are of different religious beliefs not because of choice but rather* because of upbringing or culture so when questioned many don't know truth. Well, in this particular case I stirred up some emotions that I did not as of yet recognize. He secretly set out on a journey to discover truth and show how I was wrong in disagreeing with the Catholic culture/church. Over the last 6 years or so God has worked on that seed and used me and others to water it. Last October, Fred explained to me how God got a hold of his heart and he got saved a few years ago because of our conversations. He continued to study and the more he would ask questions while reading the Bible the more he could not agree or follow the Catholic Church. So, he came to me with a list of questions one Sunday afternoon and proceeded to interrogate me with Bible verses to see what I believe as he has already come to learn what God says in his own bible reading. For the most part, we were in agreement as we shared scripture with each other. This pleasantly surprised him and after several hours, he expressed how he wants to start coming to church and growing with us; but he still lives on his family's compound. He expressed to me that he is counting the cost and that his family will disown him once he confronts them about the truth. He is currently looking for a place to move so he may continue growing in the Lord. Please pray for Fred Cruz. Through your support and prayers you have part in this young man's change in eternal destination. Thank you.

Luke 14:27-28 "And whosoever doth not bear his cross, and come after me, cannot be my disciple. For which of you, intending to build a tower, sitteth not down first, and counteth the cost, whether he have sufficient to finish it?"

We have been on the field now for 6 years and the <u>Lord has lead for us to take a year furlough</u>. Through much prayer and answers we are now planning on returning to the States this <u>summer 2025</u>. We will be making appointments to raise more support and report back to say, "Thank You" to our supporters. Due to timing we may not be able to visit everyone; therefore, if you would like us to report please reach out. Also, if you are

interested in partnering with us we would love to come be a blessing and share our burden for the CNMI with your church. Please pray for: passports, tickets, safety traveling & filling our calendar with appoint-

ments. God bless & see you soon!

Joshua McClure Family

Gratefully Serving,

Pray Requests &-Updates+

- 1) Fred Cruz
- 2) <u>Video Update in progress.</u>
- 3) <u>Furlough come</u> summer of 2025.
- 4) Answer to prayer: 2 churches have volunteered to buy our tickets.
- 5) Pray for our <u>pass-ports</u>, <u>safety in traveling</u>, & <u>filling our calendar w/appointments</u>.
- 6) Pray for Terry & Gloria's health as they plan to watch the work while we're on furlough.
- 7) Vehicle—for furlough we are praying for a van in the same category as a Mercedes Sprinter or Ford Transit or similar that can hold a family of 6 (2 adults and 4 kids with car seats) yet still have extra space in the back for luggage.

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 13459 Arlington, Texas 76094

on website