



MARIANA

ALYA

NAYA

GAVINO

The HERNANDEZ

2ND GENERATION MISSIONARIES TO FAMILY

Mexico

BIMI



For The Pastor

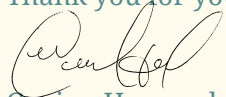
Dear Pastor,

We are Gavino and Mariana Hernandez, second-generation missionaries to Monterrey, Mexico. Our purpose is to plant local Baptist churches and to train and support national leaders in Mexico. We are being sent out of Cornerstone Baptist Church in Findlay, Ohio, pastored by Walt Sheppard. We have partnered with Baptist International Missions Inc. (BIMI) as our mission board. I grew up on the mission field, in Monterrey, Mexico, from the age of nine. My wife is a national from Monterrey.

We have enclosed some information about ourselves in this packet for you to know us better. We would love to have the opportunity to share our burden with you and your church family. We have also enclosed our testimonies, statements of faith, and our calling.

We would love to hear from you if you have any questions, concerns, or possible openings. Our contact information is on the back of this packet.

Thank you for your time and your service to our Lord,



Gavino Hernandez

Isa. 6:8



Our Testimonies

GAVINO'S TESTIMONY



I was born into a single-parent household. My mother and I are of Latino descent but lived in a small town in Ohio. Catholicism was our "FAMILY RELIGION", but my mother had gotten saved in college. From the time my mother got saved to the time of having me, she had a lot of dark moments where she questioned God. When I was six we started to faithfully attend a Baptist church where she got right with God and surrendered her life to serve God. At the age of nine, we moved to Monterrey, Mexico, as missionaries where we lived in the home of Doyle and Dixie Johnson. I spent a lot of my time around ministry people-- pastors, missionaries, evangelists, and teachers. I knew how to play the part of a Christian, but I was as lost as any other sinner. I would tell my mother that I wasn't saved, in order to get out of major discipline. We would pray, and I would avoid punishment, but later my mom began to catch on to my game. That threw a wrench in my plan. I sat under a lot of amazing

preaching, sometimes being convicted but nervous about what others would say or do. I thought, "I am a missionary's kid; I'm good enough to go to heaven." One day we were going to an anniversary service for a church that was started a year before. The guest speaker was Pastor Dave Smith who was accompanied by a group of men from his church to see the Johnson's ministry. I was super excited to hear his energetic preaching. Though I can't remember what he was preaching about, I can remember the small, primitive church was packed. He asked everyone to bow their heads and to raise their hand if they were saved. I knew I could not raise my hand. He said, "Everyone in here that did not raise your hand, hell is waiting for you! The torment and fire there will never stop, but Jesus wants to save you!" As I went home with the group that night, I was under heavy conviction. I felt Bro. Dave had noticed my unraised hand, but he never said anything - just gave me a slight hug before we went off to bed. Everyone else went to sleep, but I lay awake thinking, "Hell is waiting for me but Jesus wants to SAVE ME!" Finally, a few hours later, I woke up one of the men in the room. I told him that I was not saved. He took his Bible and started to give me the plan of salvation. I stopped him after the first verse and said, "I have these verses memorized; let's just pray." I broke down, cried, and begged God to SAVE ME! I slept like a baby after that! The next morning when I told everyone about my decision for Christ, Bro. Dave told me he had noticed my unraised hand at the service and had begged God not to let me sleep until I got it right with HIM! I am grateful to God for all HE has done for me.

MARIANA'S TESTIMONY

I was born into a single-parent household. My mom and I lived in Monterrey, Mexico. When I was three days old, my mom received Jesus as her Savior. She started attending a church plant where I would grow up, and she became the first member of that church. After five years had passed my father finally decided to get married to my mother. Later three more children were added to our family. My mother always wanted us to serve God, so she decided we would attend the church's Christian school started by our missionaries Doyle and Dixie Johnson. In 2006 my family suffered a tragedy where one of my sisters was killed. I battled with this, not understanding what God's plan, was until one day while I was helping Mrs. Johnson in school. She was giving a Bible lesson that spoke to my heart as she too lost her sister in an accident. I realized I did not have the hope she had of seeing her sister again. I needed to be saved. After class, I talked to Mrs. Johnson. I accepted Jesus as my Savior that day.

I became more active in our local church, serving in various ministries like Sunday school and Jr Church. When I graduated from high school, I started to help in our Christian school by shadowing Mrs. Johnson for a few years. In 2010, I started a secular job working as an English teacher for public schools. I used my job to be a witness to my students. In November 2014, I married Gavino. In September 2015, our first baby girl (Naya) was born. After two and a half years of the immigration paperwork, we moved to Ohio April 2017. Our second baby girl (Alya) was born into our family in July that year. In August 2017, we became members of Cornerstone Baptist Church. We have served in the Jr Church, VBS, and various ministries until deputation started.





Our Statement of Faith

We believe that there is one, and only one, living and true God. He is an infinite, intelligent Person, and the Maker and Supreme Ruler of heaven and earth. We believe that in the unity of the Godhead there are three Persons - the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost - equal in every divine perfection, and possessing distinct offices in the great work of redemption.

We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ, the eternal Son of God, became man without ceasing to be God, having been conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary so that He might reveal God and redeem sinful men. We believe that God manifested Himself in the flesh in the Person of Jesus Christ, Who is both the Son of God and the Son of man. We believe that He lived a perfectly sinless life on this earth.

We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ accomplished our redemption through His death on the cross as a sacrifice and that our justification is made sure by His literal, physical resurrection from the dead.

We believe that the Holy Spirit is a divine Person equal with God the Father and God the Son, We believe that He was active in the creation; that He reproves the world of sin, righteousness, and judgment; that He bears witness to the truth of the gospel in preaching and testimony; that He is the agent in the new birth; and that He indwells, comforts, seals, fills, guides, teaches, sanctifies, helps and assures the believer.

We believe that the salvation of sinners is wholly of grace through the mediatory office of the Son of God, Who by appointment of the Father, freely took upon Himself our sin.

We believe that all the redeemed, once saved, are kept by God's power and are thus secure in Christ forever. We believe that it is the privilege of believers to rejoice in the assurance of their salvation through the testimony of God's Word.

We believe that God has given Christians a great commission to proclaim the gospel to all nations so that there might be a great multitude from every nation, tribe, ethnic group, and language group who believe in the Lord Jesus Christ. As ambassadors of Christ, we must use all available means to go to foreign nations and not wait for them to come to us.



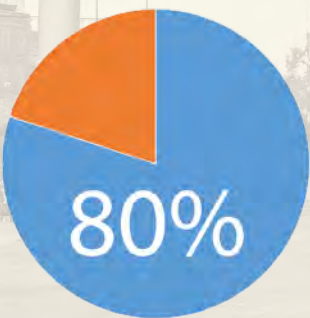
Our Calling

Growing up on the mission field opened my eyes to the needs of Spanish-speaking people. I saw the lack of spiritual resources, true Biblical education, and ministry laborers. Growing up I was able to eat at the Pastor and Missionary table; I heard their conversations and how they needed help. God had laid on my heart to always be willing to serve, but I did not know how. At the age of 15, I surrendered my life to serve Him after a sermon preached by Octavio Ruiz, a missionary to Chiapas, Mexico. He showed his video presentation where I saw kids just like me. God convicted my heart that night. I realized that people in Africa, India, and the whole world needed the gospel, but our local area did too. That made an impression on me. God laid on my heart that people around me were going to hell also. I went to the altar that night and told God that it was no longer “My Life” but His to use. I told my pastor that night about the decision I had made. The following day I started to shadow my pastor. This continued for the next six years; I was always with him. In 2014, I graduated from our local Bible institute, in Mexico.

We will be going to Monterrey, Mexico, with the main goal of planting an independent fundamental Baptist church. We will be doing this by soul winning, Bible studies, discipleship, and visitation. We will also be picking up the ministry of Doyle and Dixie Johnson. We will be helping the three church plants that they started. We will be teaching in a local Bible institute and assisting the pastors as we prepare to start our own church plant.

Facts About Mexico

- Over 80% of Mexicans identify as Catholic.
- Mexico’s population is 128.9 million (2020)
- City of Monterrey population- 5,341,171 (Registered)
- City of Monterrey crime rate - Moderate 57.91



The
HERNANDEZ
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Mexico

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