

Sergio Herrera

Serving the Lord in Mexico



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INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIP MINISTRIES
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My esteemed brothers and sisters,

JUNE 2026

We always give thanks to God for all of you. You are a blessing to our lives and our ministry. I want you to know that, by supporting the ministry we have been carrying out for years, the missionary agency IPM has been a blessing to many Mexican and Cuban families, and now to Chilean families as well.



By the grace of God, within just a few days of arriving in Chile, we began helping a group of believers who have been without a pastor for years. This means that they are in great need of assistance—especially when it comes to being nourished by the good seed of the Gospel. It is undoubtedly quite a challenge, for it is much like tending to a nursery full of newborns. We have already paid several visits, and—by the grace of God—three people have received Christ. Here is a photo of me with a married couple who received Christ as their Savior.

I have also spent a full month sharing special Bible studies at a local church on Sunday afternoons. This has been a true blessing, as it challenges me to continue my own spiritual preparation and to keep sharing the Gospel. Several believers have approached me asking for my help in establishing a Bible institute—something I would very much love to do. Consequently, we are currently in prayer regarding this matter; for, obviously, it is a significant responsibility, as it involves training leaders grounded in sound doctrine. By the grace of God, we have also been assisting with ministerial counseling. Currently, we are working with a young couple—sharing God's Word with them—as they are preparing for marriage. We ask that you please pray for them—for Diego and Javiera (pictured here). This entire experience has been a true missionary challenge: going out to visit and share the Gospel with the people we meet along the way. And please remember: the blessing of new souls coming to Christ is a blessing for you as well.



OUR FAMILY

Thanks be to the Lord, my wife is doing well. She continues to take her medication, which helps her manage her degenerative arthritis. We have now located a doctor here in Chile who is treating her to manage her arthritis. So, thank you, brothers and sisters, for your offerings; they are a tremendous help to my wife—your missionary—as she deals with a health issue she has had for some 20 years now. Her hands have become deformed, and she is unable to straighten her elbows; however, the blessing is that she is free of pain. My heart is deeply grateful to all of you. Every time I look at my wife's hands—and her elbows that she cannot straighten—I thank God for you. For, thanks to your offerings, we have been able to purchase the medications she needs to manage her degenerative arthritis. Please, do not grow weary of supporting us—these elderly missionaries who continue to serve the Lord despite our physical limitations. Please pray that God will provide us with a home, as rent here in Chile is extremely expensive—\$950 per month. A BLESSING – My daughter, Sharon, is expecting a baby girl in September, so we will be traveling to Guatemala to be with her for a few days. God will provide.

CUBA

Brothers and sisters, here I would like to share with you a glimpse of the ministry I have carried out in Cuba for years: bringing large quantities of clothing, toothpaste, and toothbrushes to families in dire need every time I travel there. As is already well known, Cuba is currently going through very difficult times. The power outages no longer last just 5 hours, but rather up to 12 hours at a stretch; furthermore, the pastors tell me that they are permitted to purchase only up to 20 liters of gasoline at a time. I sent a pair of specialized eyeglasses from Mexico to Holguín, Cuba, for a pastor's daughter. It took nearly four months for them to reach her—not because they didn't arrive in Havana, Cuba, within about a month, but because the pastor was unable to drive his car from Holguín to Havana due to a severe fuel shortage. The trip from Holguín to Havana takes approximately nine hours. Ultimately, several pastors advised me against traveling to Cuba until the end of the year, citing the fuel crisis and other issues that would prevent me from visiting various House Churches and delivering the aid they so desperately need. The pastor who typically assists me in visiting the mission sites can barely manage to charge a battery long enough to power his moped for a few hours of travel.

HERE ARE SOME PROJECTS THAT NEED TO BE FUNDED THIS NOVEMBER:

God willing, I hope to travel to Cuba on November 10th. I have already shared this plan with several Cuban pastors and missionaries. On this trip, I will be accompanied by Missionary Pastor Enrique Mejía—also from IPM—and a pastor friend of his from the Dominican Republic.



Missionary Pérez Herrera has asked for my assistance in obtaining a bicycle and a special financial offering to help repair his House Church.

Pastor Francisco Sánchez, who has an autistic son, has asked if we could please help him acquire a bicycle and some benches for his House Church.



Pastor Yendriys Cubero has also requested my assistance with a bathroom fixture set and the necessary building materials to construct a proper restroom facility; currently, they are using an outhouse clad in severely rusted zinc sheets. He has also asked for help obtaining a power source (a battery system) to keep the lights on during their worship services, as they frequently experience power outages lasting 12 to 15 hours.



Pastor Ramón has asked me to please assist him with a bicycle, a complete bathroom set—as they currently use an outhouse—and a battery for the church services.

Pastor Tobias has asked me to help him with all the fixtures for a bathroom, as well as about 10 benches for the youth class. Several other pastors and missionaries are also requesting our assistance.

HERE I SHARE WITH YOU A FEW WORDS OF GRATITUDE FROM A PASTOR IN MACARÉ, HOLGUÍN — Vilmer Matos Mena:

“The Baptist Church of Macaré thanks you for all your assistance—Pastor Sergio, Brother Matheo, and Erick—especially for the purchase of a battery to provide lighting in the sanctuary, which is already being put to use. We pray that the Lord continues to bless you and use you for His glory and His work in Cuba.” (We also provided a donation here to cover the cost of 10 benches.)

PROJECTS TO BE ACCOMPLISHED WITH THE HELP OF ALL OF YOU:

1. Four Bicycles — each one costs me approximately \$320 in Cuba.
2. Five complete bathroom sets for five house churches (toilet bowl, sink, and pedestal) — each complete set costs me \$280 in Cuba.
3. Four batteries for four house churches — each one costs me about \$750.
4. 50 benches for four house churches — each one costs \$25.
5. Purchase of used clothing (to bring approximately 300 garments), plus toothpaste and toothbrushes — totaling about \$900. (Brothers and sisters, the average monthly wage for a worker in Cuba is only about \$10 to \$12; yet, a single pair of jeans costs a Cuban person \$27. For this reason, I bring a great deal of clothing.)
6. Purchase of construction materials to build a bathroom — \$1,400 (bricks, sand, cement, rebar).

Thank you so much for your prayers; they are a true blessing to our lives and ministry.

Thank you very much for your missionary offering. Please remember that we are seniors, and that we live solely by faith.

We have a personal request: we need your help through prayer so that God may provide us with a special offering to purchase a small vehicle for the ministry—specifically, to visit families and share the Gospel. We are currently short about \$11,500. This would be a tremendous help to the ministry I carry out alongside my faithful companion, whose physical limitations make travel difficult. Please consider this request.

I would appreciate it if you could pray for my daughter, Priscilla. Here in Chile, her university credentials were not officially validated; she holds a degree in nursing from Mexico. This situation led her to pursue studies in Business Administration here in Chile for two years. The monthly cost is approximately \$200. Please pray that God will provide. Thank you very much. The cost of serving on the mission field often falls upon the children as well.

Thank you for everything you do for us and for the missionary work. You are a true blessing in our lives.

YOUR MISSIONARIES,
SERGIO AND ALEJANDRA

**A LETTER FROM YOUR MISSIONARIES,
THE HERRERA FAMILY**

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