

# VENEZUELA UPDATE



Venezuela update.....April 6, 2021

We have three urgent prayer requests for Venezuela.

FIRST... Think of the children in Venezuela living in extreme poverty. It's one thing to be poor, but it's totally another thing to grow up suffering from malnutrition without any hope of a better day ever coming. I can hardly imagine sitting down at the table for supper with insufficient food to adequately feed the children. It's hard to imagine putting your kids to bed hungry every night. Add to this, they often live without clean water or electricity. Parents are often unemployed as rotating Covid lockdowns keep them from earning any money, and currently the normal wage is about \$5.00 US per month. That is the current price of one litre of cooking oil or one kilo of meat in Venezuela.

The government gives most families a food ration once a month that is supposed to feed a family of 4 for one month. This falls far short of meeting the actual need, and the quality of the food is not very good. This condition has been going on now for 3 or 4 years.

SECOND... We need to earnestly pray for Pastor Paez as he has been having an extremely hectic schedule with too many things on his plate every day. There has been an ongoing effort to keep Pastor Rojas alive. A room was set up for him in Pastor Paez church where a nurse was brought in to care for him. Then, a hospital was found that would take him, and he was admitted. The church had to provide everything for his care in the hospital. It took them 3 days to find insulin, and all food and water have to be brought in by the family which is dropped at the front desk as no one is allowed into the hospital. Next problem, because of food shortages the food would sometimes be stolen and not reach the patient. Then a doctor friend was found who would personally deliver the food to Pastor Rojas. The only thing that has kept this preacher alive till now are the prayers of God's people as he has been at the point of death a few times.

THIRD... Another urgent prayer need is with the people in the church. Pastor Paez says Covid is moving through the church families and throughout the country where it seems unstoppable. Tears and death have left their mark on this population due to poor physical resistance, primarily to a poor diet and insufficient food. The over-the-counter medicines, vitamins and supplements we have sent are helping to alleviate some of the needs. A few church members that have motorcycles are driving doctors and nurses to aid the very sick from the church families. As of this writing, no one from the church family has died. The current crisis has made it necessary to scale back many of the church's activities. The outreach into the Barrios has been put on hold for a few weeks until the current crisis is past.

Please pray for the church family. They work very hard at evangelism, discipleship, brotherly love, and bearing one another's burdens. The hardships they have been living with for the last 3 or 4 years have broken them, and taught them to depend on the Lord for all of their needs. They have truly learned the truth of this verse, "having food and raiment, let us therewith be content." Let's do all we can in pleading their cause before our Loving Heavenly Father. May He receive glory by doing a mighty work in Caracas.

We have our fourth food shipment scheduled to leave Miami on Friday the 9th. The approximate cost will be \$25,000. If you are able to help us with this, that would be greatly appreciated.

Thanks and may God bless all of you for caring and sharing with our brothers and sisters in Venezuela.

Pastor Unger