



## GLOBAL LINK

February – March 2015

### *Transformation through God's Grace*



Missionaries Bill and Fayth McConnell and Del and Joy Brown witness changed lives on a regular basis through their prison ministries in Mexico. They met Mary Fuentes in one of their prison Bible study groups in 2011. God has done miraculous things for her family.

Here is their story, told by Mary and her husband, Jaime.

(Mary): "When I was just six years old my father kidnapped my brother and me. I never really got to know my mother and still do not know who or where she is. At the age of 14

my father died in an accident. I was devastated. Why me? Why my dad? Four years later I met Jaime (my husband). He was working as a drug dealer and I became his top helper. I had comfort, good clothes, cars, jewelry, and a house. As time went on, I started using drugs and became a drug addict. Before becoming addicted to drugs I already had three kids. Christians came and knocked on my door many times, but I always rejected them because I thought that if God truly loved me, my dad would still be alive. Even though I loved my children I was afraid to change."

(Jaime): "I turned out to be like a father to my seven brothers and sisters when my father left home and abandoned us when I was 13 years old. My family needed more income, so I decided to go to Nogales, Arizona, for a better job to help mom raise us. While in the U.S. I found a wrong way to get money. I ended up going to jail for the first time while going back and forth from Mexico to the U.S. running drugs. As time went on I had a lot of money and started using the drugs I was selling. When I was 31 years old I met Mary, the mother of my children. Mary started using drugs because she was mad at life and her family. Before I knew it the federal police caught me and took everything away from me and I ended up in jail again."

(Mary): "Suddenly Jaime was deported and back in jail. One month later I was deported and we lost everything we had. Here in Nogales, Mexico, God kept knocking on my door. I prayed He would do a miracle in my life. Jaime and I quit doing drugs, which was very difficult, and we moved back to the U.S.

(Jaime): "We now had five kids and I had found a decent job and could afford a house and cars. This time I found the right way to get money in the U.S. and we were still free from drugs. We felt God was calling us but we didn't feel worthy because of our past with drugs and prison. In 2007 we were deported and lost everything again. We now had six children and felt hopeless and were suffering. Life is hard in Mexico, especially with six kids. Mary ended up in jail and I had to take over as both dad and mom. We

were living in an abandoned house with dirt floors. There were no windows, doors, bathrooms or kitchen. The house was gutted out and had no electricity or water."

(Mary): "On October 11, 2011, God answered my prayer. That day I ended up in prison, where I met missionaries Bill and Fayth McConnell and Del and Joy Brown and accepted Jesus as my personal Lord and Savior. I had been falsely accused and they prayed with me for freedom. I was freed from prison five months later."

(Jaime): "Mary was finally released from jail and told me she accepted Jesus and that she met some missionaries. Mary said they were going to help us. I didn't believe it at first; no one ever did anything for me, but then they helped us get a new start."

(Mary): "The McConnells and Browns helped us get our lives in order. Shortly after that my son, Isaias, became very ill. He died but God revived him and gave him his life back again. The missionaries were there for me when I was in jail, and they are there for me to this day. God showed me a miracle with my son and it changed my life even more."

(Jaime): "These missionaries didn't care who we were or what we had done. They came and showed us love with their actions and helped us like no one else did - they showed us God's love has no boundaries. I accepted Jesus as my Savior. Now I don't miss church on Sunday's or during the week. God brought my youngest son, Isaias, back from the dead. Only God could do that."

(Mary): "God changed my life from a life of pain, sadness, hopelessness, and drugs into that of a happily baptized woman who is married with six wonderful kids. Now God rules my life and I am the happiest I have ever been. I know God gave His only son for me and that He loves us no matter who or what we are."

(Jaime): "God has made in my life a new creature that is thirsty for His word. God made me a man, a father, and a husband and gave me a new life full of love. My father abandoned me when I was young, but God, our heavenly Father, has never left me and is always with me."



Missionary Fayth McConnell shares, **"We believe Jaime and Mary have a call of God on their lives and are so happy to be part of their lives."**

Praise God for His mercies in bringing Isaias back to life and for His hand in Jaime and Mary's lives. Please continue to pray for this family as they continue to pursue God. Mary needs God's healing touch to completely remove the leukemia that has returned after seven years of being cancer free and a complete healing for their son, Isaias, as he continues to struggle with lung problems and seizures.



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