## BAPTIST AMBASSADORS FOR CHRIST "WE ARE AMBASSADORS FOR CHRIST." II COR. 5:20

Dear Pastor & Friends:

February, 2024

Someone asked the other day **"Who writes your prayer letters?".** We both do it. For the past 68 years that we have been married, I have been Lavon's secretary. In fact, when we were in college, I took the notes in shorthand (remember what that was?) and then transcribed them for him. I worked my way through college as a secretary so he always said, "You type the letters and I will approve or disapprove them". So that is what we have always done. I **never** send out a letter without him having read it.

Lately we have been cleaning out some of our files and getting rid of them like prayer letters and income tax returns etc. etc. from many years back. Shortly after we came to Spain, Lavon began adding a short paragraph to what I would write in the letter and he called it **"THINKING MISSIONS"**. It was sort of like his point of view of what was going on. As I sorted the other day, I found many of these paragraphs and the great majority of the things he said are still relevant today. So I will be adding from time to time some of those past thoughts that he shared many years ago.

We continue to have first-time visitors at the church most every Sunday. Some come back - some don't , but they hear a clear Gospel message each time they come. There are some of the teens that are taking a more active part in directing music, giving a devotional from time to time and in general being a great help to Pastor Angel. The ladies' group meets once a month under the direction of Marimar, (the pastor's wife) who is doing a great job. We long to see more conversions and baptisms but it is in the Lord's hands. Your prayers and support are **so essential** to the work here.

In Christ, Lavon & Carolyn

THINKING MISSIONS: (July, 1976) We were recently asked this question by a missionary: "what SPECIAL ministry are you involved in here in Spain.?" We just said that the Lord had called us to start a local church. The missionary said, "Oh, you are involved in church planting". The tone of his voice gave us the idea that this was a fourth-rate ministry and we were just not up to this century...THINKING MISSIONS would not dare to minimize any ministry, but if a choice of category had to be made, we would say that the SPECIAL ministry of the New Testament believers was winning souls and baptizing the people, thus forming local churches. Are the other ministries not only related helps to the SPECIAL one???

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