

Dear Friend and Family,

Last week a team member of ours went to be with the Lord. Angie was 44 years old when she suffered a heart attack and died in the middle of the night. She and her husband, Arturo, recently joined OC and were planning to join the OC team in southern Spain in a year. Her passing was sudden and unexpected. Arturo, his daughter, Andrea (22), and son, Pablo (18), are mourning the loss of their wife and mother. As teammates, and friends, we have also mourned the loss of Angie. And yet, we know that she is in the presence of our Savior.



*Arturo and Angie Jiménez*



*Jaime and Areli Rodríguez*

Last week, another Guatemalan team member of ours, Areli, was told that she has a lump in her breast. She went in for an operation to get the lump removed and for a biopsy on Monday. The doctors are saying that four out of five of this type of lump are malignant. We have spent time praying with Areli and her husband, Jaime. They are trusting the Lord in their circumstance, knowing that He is in control of all things and wanting Him to be glorified in their lives.

Life can be so hard. All around us there is suffering, perhaps even in your life. What do we do when our circumstances are difficult? How do we respond when life's troubles come our way? I am challenged by the words of Arturo:

"Please keep praying for us, that each day we would feel the loving arms of our Father, especially in our pain."

And the words of Areli: "Lord, do Your will in my life, that You would be glorified. I trust You."

I don't know about you, but when I listen to testimonies like these, I am reminded of difficult times in my own life. For our family, what comes to mind is when our newborn daughter was fighting for her life in the neonatal intensive care unit. Not knowing whether Mikayla would live or die, Kyle and I could only wait, pray, and praise the Most High God.

Thousands of people were praying with us for Mikayla's life; perhaps you were one of them. Thank you so much for your prayers! And now, I ask you to intercede for the life of Areli. Above all, pray that Areli and Jaime would put their faith in the Lord, that they would walk in His presence and peace, and that He would be glorified in their lives.

Also, please pray for Arturo, Andrea, and Pablo as they continue to grieve the loss of Angie. Pray that they would feel the loving arms of the Father, that they would trust Him and praise Him in His sovereignty, and that God would be glorified through their lives.

Lord, my prayer is that Your peace would encompass the life of the person who is reading this letter. That Your truth would reign in their mind, and Your love fill their hearts. That they would trust You in their circumstance and that You would be glorified in and through their life. Amen.

With much love,

*Nell*