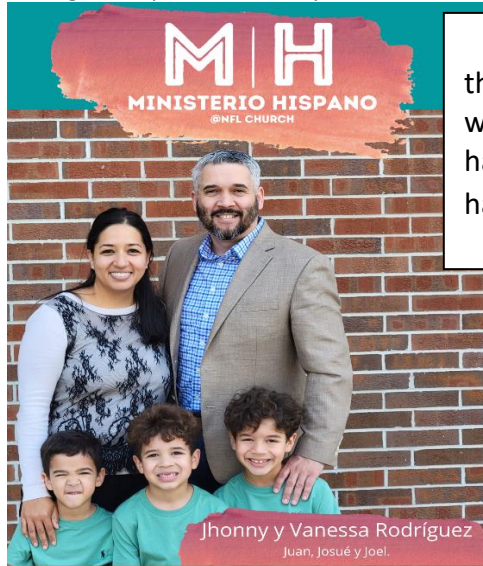


## THE RODRIGUEZ FAMILY:

Serving the Hispanic Community in North Florida.



“When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, “The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest.”

**Mathew 9:36-39**

It’s been 14 yrs since God made it clear that Jesus’s words in Mathew 9 were a reality around me. Back then I was a single young man about to graduate from Dental school convinced that, somehow, He was going to use a career and skills He had, by his grace, given to me.

Back then I refused to come to the US and stay because I was exposed, first hand, to the spiritual need there was in my own country. I refused to come and serve people in the United States and leave behind the sheep that were helpless in my own land. Why would I come and serve in the “Land of the free”?.

For 10 Yrs God allowed us to serve, train and equip our own people. Young Dentists getting involved in missions and committing to serve Christ with their skills, Churches using health as a powerful tool to impact their communities, Church planting projects as a result of that impact. Now it was time to move on. A big fish ate our entire family and puked us all in a land that, far from being full of free people, is full of spiritually broken “slaves”.

Now, fast forward 14 yrs... Those words in Mathew continue to be a reality where we are, the harvest around us is now greater than ever. Over 15 thousand Hispanic people around Tallahassee, FL. Every week for the last 2 yrs, 300 people moved into Tallahassee or surrounding areas. 20% of them are Hispanics. Mostly from a Catholic background or “non-religious” with some kind of “faith”. From all over Central, South America and the Caribbean. Including Dominican Republic.

The workers?... still not enough. Less than 3 Solid, Bible preaching, Christ centered Churches, and us. My family and another family, Nery Lona and his wife Alida, Reaching out to a group of close to 20 families God has send our way. In the last year we went from being a Bible Study in our living room, to launching last March “Ministerio Hispano @NFLChurch”. A Ministry of North Florida Baptist Church that exists to honor God while making disciples who serve the Hispanic community around Tallahassee, FL. Providing multiple opportunities for every man, women and child to see the love and compassion of Jesus and to respond to the free gift of salvation by faith in Christ.

In August 2021 we prayed for God to provide the Right Church for us to partner with and we are blessed to have found a Home away from home here at North Florida Baptist Church.

**Work:** God has given me a Job as a “Dental case manager” at a Nonprofit Medical Center here in town. This Job has become a great tool since I provide access to Dental service to multiple Hispanic families who otherwise couldn’t afford Dental treatment. Allowing us to impact their lives and to show Christ with them. Many of our families that we are reaching out to com from this Job.

**School:**Our Kids Continue to go to North Florida Christian School. This is how our relationship with NFL Church Started. Juan is going to 3<sup>rd</sup> grade. He managed to stay in Honor Roll all year and was awarded Christian Character among many others awards for his class. Josue is now going to 1<sup>st</sup> Grade. He is also was awarded Christian Character and Honor roll. He likes to assist his teacher and struggles a little bit with making friends. He says his friends are always playing to be “Mom and dad” he prefers to play hide and sick freeze tag. Joel has challenged us and taken us out of our comfort zone as parents. He is a very smart little boy who turned 5 last week and will be a kinder garden. They are all heavily involved in baseball.

North Florida Christian School has also become a powerful tool for our ministry. Florida provides scholarships that are available for Hispanics also. Must of them do not know this. We have been blessed with these scholarships and have decided to give by grace what we received by grace. We have opened and office at NFL Church where we help families fill applications and help them through the process of admissions into NFC. God has open this door for 8 new families and over 12 kids that will now received private Christian education in a sports oriented school. This is then entry to a path of success in the lives of this children.

**Missions:** We continue to Support Dr. Madelin Lopez in La Villa Bible Church and Dr. Fabiola at Cien Fuego Bible Church with both Churches Dental Clinics. We are planning our next trip to work with them in March next year with the help of University of North Caroline Dental students.

This July 16<sup>th</sup> I will be going with one of our families to Guatemala to provide Dental care and Training to a group of Pastors and their families in the mountains of Monjas, Guatemala. A small town where a missionary family is committed to care for these families and their ministries.

**Prayer Requests:** We are thankful that in all circumstance we can “do all things in Christ who strengthens us”. We are also thankful for you and your support.

-While Josue, Joel and Vanessa’s I-130 has been approved, Juan’s has been put on hold. We need to submit a new Marriage certificate for him. After this we will be ready to submit an adjustment of status for all of them. This ill be another \$1,500 for each.

-Pray for the trip to Guatemala for Wesley and His family coming with me to see Christ as we serve his own people.

-Please continue to pray for our Hispanic Ministry here in Tallahassee. For God to send Workers to the harvest.

-We need a Soccer mission team to come and partner with us to impact the Hispanic community.

We have attached a QR Code to our Ministry Web page where you can find a Video/Slidehsow with pictures.

Thank You!



[www.nflchurch.com/hispano](http://www.nflchurch.com/hispano)