

# My Experience Fellowshiping With Veteran Missionary Dr. Humberto Gomez

by Missionary Manny Rodriguez

*"...make full proof of thy ministry" II Tim. 4:5*

**12-17-07** I was able to spend much time of fellowship with Bro. Gomez during November and December 2007.

I had the privilege to visit 3 of his churches that he started in Matamoros, Mexico. It was also a great honor to be able to preach both Sunday morning and evening in his church Iglesia Bautista Libertad (Liberty Baptist Church). The people in this church are both humble and lively. They are the easiest people in the world to preach to. They love preaching! What an honor it was to speak to these good folks. They even took us on for financial support as their missionaries to Puerto Rico. Praise the Lord! I was able to meet Bro. Alfredo whom Bro. Gomez is training and grooming to eventually take over the Pastorate of Iglesia Bautista Libertad. Bro. Alfredo is a zealous young preacher who loves his people. He has a world of respect for his mentor, Bro. Gomez, as do everyone else in Matamoros.

While there, I also got to witness the baptism of a man that was recently led to the Lord. This man was a drug dealer and member of a Mexican mafia. Bro. Gomez and his son told me the story how the gang this man was a member of came to Matamoros to kill him once they heard that he had decided to quit selling drugs as they were afraid that he might "rat them out". These gang members knew who Bro. Gomez was, however. They knew how Bro. Gomez lived the same type of lifestyle before he got saved. So when this gang found out that this man was going to Bro. Gomez's church and was indeed a changed man, they spared the man's life and went on their way. What a joy it was to witness the work of God in this former thug's life!

Brother and Sister Gomez showed my family and I the hospitality of their home. Sister Gomez is an excellent cook! She makes some steak fajitas that are just out of this world! And she makes excellent coffee. Most of my time spent with Bro. Gomez was in front of his computer working on various projects involving the Spanish Bible. Bro. Gomez is much like my Pastor, Bro. Karl Baker. Any amount of time fellowshiping around him will eventually evolve into work! Bro. Gomez is a tireless worker! His work ethic is impressive and a good example to younger missionaries like myself. The guy never stops working. He is constantly in front of his computer working on projects involving the Spanish Bible such as formatting the future parallel RVG/KJV (which is coming soon!) Bible. He is also

constantly researching, looking up the Hebrew, Greek, Spanish, English, as well as other technical areas checking for typographical oversights. He is very meticulous. It was sort of funny watching Bro. Gomez get frustrated with me as he taught me how to help him format the parallel Bible. I wanted to help as much as possible while there. And we did get much accomplished, thank the Lord. But a stubborn Puerto Rican and a stubborn Mexican trying to work together is a sure recipe for disaster! (I love Bro. Gomez.) But we had a great time.

When Bro. Gomez is not in front of his computer working on the Bible, he is out soul winning, running errands, shipping out boxes of Bibles, running back and forth to the Post Office, Home Depot, and the Bank taking care of business in relation to the Bible and the ministry in general. And all the while he is running errands, his phone is constantly glued to his ear as he is dealing with collaborators all over the world discussing technical issues involving the RVG text, or answering questions from people inquiring about his work on the Bible, or dealing with ministers all over the world requesting boxes of Bibles. (I specifically remember one phone call from a Mexican man who had just finished proofreading the entire NT in 2 months and was sharing with Bro. Gomez his observations on a couple of items he took note of.) I saw firsthand from being around him for nearly a month that Bro. Gomez is a man who is totally consumed with his work. As Priscilla and Aquilla were "addicted to the ministry" so is Bro. Humberto Gomez.

I also got to meet their 3 daughters Imelda, Abigail, and Angie (who lives with her family in Brownsville). My wife already knew them personally since they went to the same Christian school for a while as kids. We were also able to fellowship with Bro. Gomez's son Humberto Jr. who lives with his wife and 3 children in a newly built home next door. The Gomez family are good people who serve the Lord together as a family unit. They were fun to be around.