

Luis & Julie Añil

July, 2019



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Just before Luis and I were leaving New York at the end of April, I had my annual mammogram and a MRI and I was diagnosed with breast cancer on my right breast. We were leaving in just a few days, and when we returned to the Dominican Republic, we prayed and talked with doctors whether we should turn around and return to New York for treatment, or stay here and have the surgery and cancer removed in the D.R.. We decided to have the surgery here. The surgery went well, and we were impressed with the doctors and with the professional medical care. Thankfully, the cancer was caught early, but several doctors here and my cardiologist in New York suggested that we go to MD Anderson Cancer Center for the post surgery follow up treatment. We know a lovely family in Houston that we will be staying with. Her husband has worked at MD Anderson for many years, is very well thought of, and is the director of the Infectious Diseases Department. I knew them when I lived in Lebanon, when they were single and where her husband was studying medicine at the American University of Beirut. I disciplined his wife while I was there. He is well connected and has obtained an appointment for me with one of the best breast oncologists in the world, if not in the U.S. He said that I am very fortunate to have time with him, as he is soon to retire.

We will be leaving for Houston next week. All of the doctor's visits, exams, cultures, keeping up with our ministry, caring for my husband and home, having friends drop in at all hours and staying for long visits, and hosting visitors with us from the States, etc., have been a very stressful experience. I have not had the time to answer each one of you who has communicated with me personally. Eventually I will have time to catch up with you. At times I feel like I am becoming unhinged. We know the Lord is sovereign, and we have seen Him answer prayer, and prepare the way for us in many ways. Amazingly, our ministry continues to go very well, and we have maintained all that we need to do to keep it going. Luis has been doing so much for me in the home, and with the ministry. I never expected to have such a wonderful care giver in a husband.

We have been overwhelmed with the expressions of love to us from our ministry partners. We know that you care sincerely for us and want to be involved in our ministry. You have provided for us, not just with our financial needs, but in prayer, words of encouragement, and even in words several feel have been spoken to them from the Lord concerning my situation. We are deeply grateful and so thankful to have you in our lives.

We ask that you would continue to pray for us. We will be giving you an update as to the type of follow up treatment that will be decided for me. My cell phone while we are Stateside is: **646-875-7467**. It should be working much better there than it has been working here.

With Utmost Gratitude for Each of You,

♥ *Luis & Julie*

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