



Letters To LEO

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Your prayer and gifts are making a big difference in people like Ramón who are hungry for God's Word. Here's his testimony of how God is working in his life through LEO's Bible Correspondence Ministry. He expresses it by way of a story he wrote!

He writes, "I have been a student with LEO for one year and these lessons have been a great blessing and help. I'm sending you a poem, or better said a story of an "Old Tree - New Tree". I wrote this story as a testimony comparing myself with the old tree, but then I met Jesus Christ and in Him I'm now a New Tree..."

Old Tree New Tree

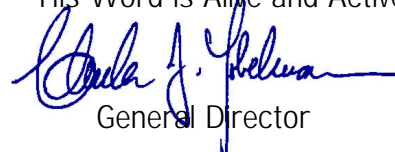


Ramón Nieves Dávila

I shall compare myself to an old tree whose roots have withered. The ground around those roots no longer supply the nutrients that give me life. In the course of time my leaves withered and fell to the ground and the children that used to come and see me no longer pass by the place that was once full of life. The birds of the air no longer find rest in my branches because of my unhappiness in life. Is it possible that my leaves were meant to purify the air of this beautiful place? I was ugly and wrinkled, part of me had dried up and I gave no fruit. I ask myself, Will I be in such a miserable state for long?...will it

be years?...to tell the truth, I really don't know. Many have made fun of me, I've felt completely useless to the rest. Often I look around and see how everyone else prospers, They live happily reaching out and providing shade to the needy so they don't grow weary because of the sun beating down on them. I must admit I've lived my life wrongly. I've lived with bitter disappointments and experienced my share of suffering throughout my life till now. I've come to realize that I have to put on the brakes to all this pain and be like David the Psalmist, "Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly...he shall be like a tree planted by the river of waters whose leaf does not wither and fall and all he does shall prosper." I've been raised up. It hasn't been easy but today I have new life in Christ, and though it may seem impossible to believe what has taken place, I am alive in Him! I'm happy and have matured. I'm strong in Christ and full of hope for those who need help around me. The birds of the air today sing my victory song in Christ. My leaves now purify the air. Today, I'm a new tree and rejoice in God's gracious gift of being who I am, a new creation in Christ Jesus! II Corinthians 5:17

His Word is Alive and Active,



General Director