

Tensions were still running high in 118, and *Miami* 1 had to speak to John briefly and out of sight of people who might criticize him. The *mozos* had been berating him and accusing him of passing information to John—accusations which *Miami* 1 had been successfully fighting off. John encouraged him to be courageous—even though *Miami* 1 said he didn't want to open his veins up fighting alongside John. *Miami* 1 also doubted that Leonardo 1 had been responsible for what had transpired, but he and other Evangelicals seemed to be showing their cowardice. Neither Alexis 2 nor Manuel 3 was willing to stand with John while he preached, although Juan 1 bravely did so consistently. John preached the Gospel after talking about God's coming judgment and wrath upon unrepentant sinners, using Isaiah 50:1-6 and 16-23 as his base text. He also noted, as he did at the end of 2021, that it would be best for men to live knowing someone was writing a book about them. After all, God was doing just that, and the ensuing consequences would be far greater than appearing in *Bearing the Cross*. Still, John's living and indirect protection expenses, including upcoming cell remodeling, were rising. Winston 1 needed money to pay for extra food and transportation expenses to get himself home. Nevertheless, both he and Freddy 2 more than pulled their weight in fulfilling cell responsibilities, doing all the cleaning and remodeling. Surveillance costs also rose after one of John's three light bulbs disappeared (was stolen). At least Winston 1 could find a *machucado* willing to lend him (and John) a cell phone to call his worried wife, Pamela, briefly, and speak to his ever-prayerful friend Valentín. Doing so alleviated some nervousness while letting them know about his precarious situation and his need for money as soon as possible. Meanwhile, Winston 1 had communicated with supposedly corrupt *paco* Ronaldiño, trying to get John's cell phone into the prison (thinking it was for Winston 1). Pamela let John know that her friend Jana was back in town and would be coming to visit him with his *encomienda* sacks on the 5th.