

UNA OBRA DE DIOS

A cord of three strands is not easily broken. Ecclesiastes 4:12

CORD MINISTRIES

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MERRY CHRISTMAS~FELIZ NAVIDAD

CONSTRUCTION PROJECT=SUCCESS

Another mission trip to Acuna is over, but the blessings continue to flow.

In October, a team of 12 went to Acuna on a construction mission. 8 men from Eliam Baptist Church in Melrose, FL and 4 people from 4 Corners Baptist Church spent a week working in Acuna.

Prior to the trip, funds were sent ahead and our wonderful handyman, Jose, tore down the shabby walls of the breezeway at the OPI day center. He made the cement blocks needed for the new walls.

The blocks are made 1 by 1 and then transported to the day center. At the end of the first day, the walls were up and the headers were poured.

Children began to come around 6

for a lesson, but since the day center was under construction, they had to meet in the street. No problema! We set up chairs in the street and the children quickly filled them up. The special treat for the week was a group of clowns coming to teach the children about Jesus through songs and skits. It was fun, but it was also very cold. The next night, was about the same...lots of kids and out in the street. The final night however, was different....we were inside. It was wonderful. As the cold winds blew, we stayed warm inside the fully enclosed building.

Although there are still doors needed to complete the building, it is in much better shape than it was before. Many thanks to the men who did an awesome job of construction!

BUT THAT'S NOT ALL....Another day center was in need of a lot of repair. Over the summer, someone broke in and took all of the electrical wire, the breakers and light bulbs. This made it impossible for Hortencia to teach the children inside at the Tierra Esperanza location. So, the men rewired the building, replaced the breakers and rewired the building. They secured the wire so that it won't be as easy to take. They also replaced the breakers and connected the building to the electricity at the power pole. And, just to slow any further theft, the doors were secured so that they cannot be broken into.

But that's not all. One man on the trip—a professional painter, brought his painting equipment and painted the building and fence. WOW—EE—WOW! What a difference a new coat of paint makes.



Before



After



Then



Now



Making blocks.. 1 at a time

It's not all work...It's also about building relationships....

The men took time to play baseball with some of the neighborhood boys.



Baseball



Teaching and feeding the children...

Our team is growing...you may remember Mandy, the wonderful young woman who stayed with us in Del Rio while she completed her internship for Occupational Therapy. With a love for mission work in Mexico, Mandy returned to Del Rio after graduating. Mandy is now married to James and they continue to have a heart for missions. Many thanks to Mandy & James for their warm hospitality and great cooking. They fed our entire team on the last night of our mission trip.



Muchas gracias!

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Back in May, 2003, I remember listening to a sermon based on the "Prayer of Jabez". 1 Chronicles 4:10 says, "He was the one who prayed to the God of Israel, 'Oh that you would bless me and extend my lands! Please be with me in all that I do & keep me from all trouble & pain!' And God granted him his request." The more we studied, the more that became our prayer. As 2003 changed into 2004, it seemed like God moved at warp speed in relocating us to Del Rio. By June, 2004, we were living in Del Rio and ready to work in missions in Mexico. God certainly enlarged our "territory". Not only were we able to work in Mexico, but we hosted over 200 people in our home who came to do mission work in Mexico. Again, we thought, "God has enlarged our territory." Then, a friend reminded us that as we sent out our newsletter, our "territory" was greatly enlarged as we told hundreds of people about the work in Mexico. As we returned to Florida, we wondered what would happen next. We were reassured that God is faithful and in control. Over the 2 1/2 years we have been back in Florida, Mission Mexico continues to grow. God continues to bring workers on both sides of the border. Recently, we received a call from a wonderful family in Juarez, MX who want to work with us. They are awesome and truly God's faithful workers. We look forward to meeting with them in March and helping them share Jesus in their part of the world. As more and more Mexican workers come to work with us, we will need more help to support their work. If you would like to be a part of sharing Jesus in Mexico, you can send any donations to 4 Corners Baptist Church, 125 Cottonwood Drive, Davenport, FL 33837. Please write "Acuna Missions" in the memo line.

100% of your donations go to the support of the ministry in Mexico. The money given is used to feed the children and provide Bible materials for them to learn about Jesus. As the ministry expands and finances are available, we continue to help other workers reach and teach the children in Acuna, Piedras Negras, Torreon and wherever God leads in Mexico.

UPCOMING TRIPS:

- December 17-22: Pat will be in Acuna & Piedras Negras**
- March, 2010: Mission Mexico team in Juarez and Acuna**
- October, 2010: Mission Trip to Mexico**

Ephesians 3:20 says: "Now glory be to God! By His mighty power at work within us, HE is able to accomplish infinitely more than we would ever dare to ask or hope."

Usually on our October mission trip, we take lots of toys to Mexico for Christmas. This year, it just seemed that there wasn't as much as in other years. Don't get us wrong, we are thankful for what we had received, but it just didn't seem like enough for the nearly 1,000 children Hortencia works with. However, Hortencia assured us that God would multiply everything to meet the need. About a week after our October mission trip, Hortencia called to say a group of Americans wanted to have a big fiesta for all of the children. God is good!!

Back here in Florida, God continued to open doors. Pat read an ad for "free stuffed toys". But there was one stipulation...they had to go to needy children. When I told the man about the kids in Mexico, he was thrilled to give us the toys...lots and lots of stuffed toys in great shape. The toys have been boxed up and shipped to Texas where they are waiting for Pat to take them to Hortencia to give away. And then, a friend called to say she had collected some stuffed toys and happy meal toys....again all in great shape and all have been shipped. And then...I got a call from church...around 200 mini office supply kits were donated to our church and they wondered if we could use them in Mexico. Oh yeah! These little kits that have a mini stapler, hole punch, tape, etc. will make fantastic gifts for the teenagers.



And then...there's the sock tree. The members of 4 Corners Baptist Church have been decorating a Christmas tree with knit hats, mittens and socks for the children in Mexico. Believe it or not, it gets quite cold in Mexico. So the hats, mittens and socks will keep a lot of kids warm this winter.

God is Good...All the time!

