

Jehovah-Nissi

The Goodlings in Mexico with



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"The Lord is Our Banner"

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Taking the Gospel of Peace..



..Into a turbulent world was the theme of the Global Outreach Festival held at our sending church, NewSong, this past March. We were honored and blessed to be able to participate and were especially touched by the theme. The photo above is just a portion of the mural painted by a couple of talented guys at the church, representing 16 of the 21 Moody Bible graduates who were martyred for their faith over the years. The idea came from a book written by the keynote speaker for the conference, Marv Newell, entitled *A Martyr's Grace*. During the closing ceremony a video was played with music and various quotes displayed. The following one was especially pointed: **"We have learned that suffering is not the worst thing in the world-- disobedience to God is the worst" -- An imprisoned Vietnamese pastor.** There are many ways to lose your life, the most difficult ones are those just short of dying., as in 'living out your faith' much the way Paul speaks about in Romans 12:1-2. God has allowed us to experience a little bit of persecution and various forms of turbulence the past 21 months in Mexico. We are spiritually richer and incredibly blessed because of it! Thank you for being a big part of what the Lord has been able to do in, through, and with us here in Puebla!

Special Friends and More

Gloria is a single mother of 3 teenagers who owns a small shop at the local tourist market, El Parian, in downtown Puebla. Her son played soccer with Tyler. Dawn has been meeting with her almost weekly for the past 7 months, initially it was to help her with her 'business English'. After receiving a Bible as a gift from Dawn, they began to use it for their classes. We recently had the privilege to have her, her oldest son Luis (who celebrated his 19th birthday with us), middle son Chikes (who played with Tyler on the champion BUAP soccer team), and daughter Dahlia to our home for dinner and birthday cake and their first exposure to UNO! What fun! And what a joy to hear Gloria say the next day how she appreciated hearing prayer for her son and her family and how they don't pray, but want to learn how to. These are just a few of many, many relationships the Lord has allowed us to develop these past 21 months here in Los Heroes, Puebla. As we begin saying 'goodbye' in preparation to return to the US , we are reminded that in many ways we have 'no home' but in other ways we now have two. Mexico has become tightly weaved into the fabric of our lives these past few years, and we are so enriched to return to the US, much different people than the ones who crossed the border into Mexico in August of 2007.



Left to right: Dawn, Chikes, Gloria, Dahlia, Luis, Keith and Tyler

PLEASE ASK THE LORD THAT THIS FAMILY WILL BELIEVE WITH THEIR HEARTS AND CONFESS WITH THEIR MOUTHS THAT JESUS CHRIST IS LORD, TO THE GLORY OF GOD THE FATHER.



Two young students concentrate on their assignments

THERE WAS A TEAM OF 5 ADULTS FROM FARGO, ND HERE IN MARCH. THIS CHURCH HAS FAITHFULLY SENT DOWN AN ESL TEAM YEARLY SINCE 2006. AS ALWAYS, GOD WORKS WONDERS. WE PERSONALLY GOT TO MEET 2 YOUNG GUYS WHO ARE NEW TO LOS HEROES AND ARE OPENED TO VISITING WITH US TO PRACTICE THEIR ENGLISH. PLEASE PRAY FOR DAVID AND JONATHAN...INTERESTING. OUR NEIGHBOR, IXCHEL, WENT TO THE CLASSES AND WAS ABLE TO GET TO KNOW OUR LEADERS A BIT, SHE'S LOOKING FORWARD TO THE NEXT CAMP. PRAYING SHE'LL GET TO KNOW SOME OF THE OTHER BELIEVERS AND TEAM MATES HERE. A FEW MONTHS AGO, KEITH GAVE HER HUSBAND OSCAR THE BOOK ' A CASE FOR CHRIST' IN SPANISH.... WE ARE ASKING GOD TO PRODUCE FRUIT FROM THE VARIOUS SEEDS PLANTED AMONG OUR NEIGHBORS AND THROUGHOUT THIS EXPANSIVE HOUSING PROJECT! THERE WAS TO BE AN ESL TEAM HERE IN MAY FROM THE US, BUT DUE TO THE 'SWINE FLU' SCARE, THAT GROUP WAS CANCELLED. WE ARE TRUSTING THE LORD TO BRING A LARGE GROUP IN AUGUST AND FOR MANY STUDENTS TO SEE THE LOVE OF CHRIST DEMONSTRATED IN THE LIVES OF THE ENGLISH TEACHERS. ESL CAMPS HAVE BEEN VERY PRODUCTIVE AND INSTRUMENTAL IN INITIATING RELATIONSHIPS AND SPARKING INTEREST IN BOTH ENGLISH, AS WELL AS BIBLE STUDIES. MANY OF THE BELIEVERS HERE IN LOS HEROES HAD THEIR FIRST EXPOSURE TO CHRIST THROUGH SERVANTS WHO LEFT THE COMFORT OF 'HOME' TO COME AND SERVE SOUTH OF THE BORDER. MORE INFO ABOUT SHORT TERM TRIPS IS AVAILABLE AT WWW.CROSSWORLD.ORG

The Lord shall guide thee continually...Isaiah 58:11

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Praise and Prayer Offerings :

- MEMO HAS STUMBLED INTO ALCOHOL AGAIN ; FINANCIAL STRESSES SEEM TO DRIVE HIM TO IT. CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR HIS SALVATION; HE CONTINUES TO ATTEND THE FELLOWSHIP REGURALLY.
- SOLEDAD HAS BEEN GROWING IN THE LORD AND TESTIFIES THAT CHRIST HAS TRANSFORMED HER LIFE; PRAY SHE'LL GET CONNECTED WITH A BIBLE STUDY WITH SOMEONE ELSE AND CONTINUE TO GROW. SALVATION FOR HER FAMILY.
- PRAY FOR OUR TEAM HERE WHICH HAS GONE THROUGH MANY TRANSITIONS THE PAST 6 MONTHS. NEED FOR WISDOM, ENCOURAGEMENT AND UNITY .
- PRAISE THAT THE SWINE FLU SEEMS TO BE ON ITS WAY OUT HERE IN MEXICO. PRAY FOR THOSE AFFECTED IN THE USA AND THE WORLD.
- THE FELLOWSHIP NEEDS LOTS OF PRAYER AS THEY SEEK TO GROW; THEY NEED MEN , DISCIPLESHIP AND ENCOURAGEMENT.
- PRAISE THAT WE HAVE TEMPORARY HOUSING THROUGH JULY 4 AND GOD IS HOLDING US BY THE HAND AS WE MOVE FORWARD. WE'LL BE HEADING TOWARD THE STATES MAY 31 OR JUNE 1.

Keith, Dawn and Tyler



Drew, of the March 'Fargo ESL' Team, teaches his students some of the vocabulary words that will be used later in the week as part of the Creation Story from Genesis, chapters 1 and 2.