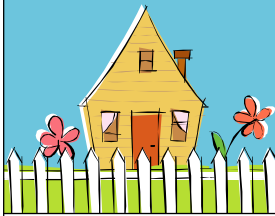


THE PUEBLA REPORT

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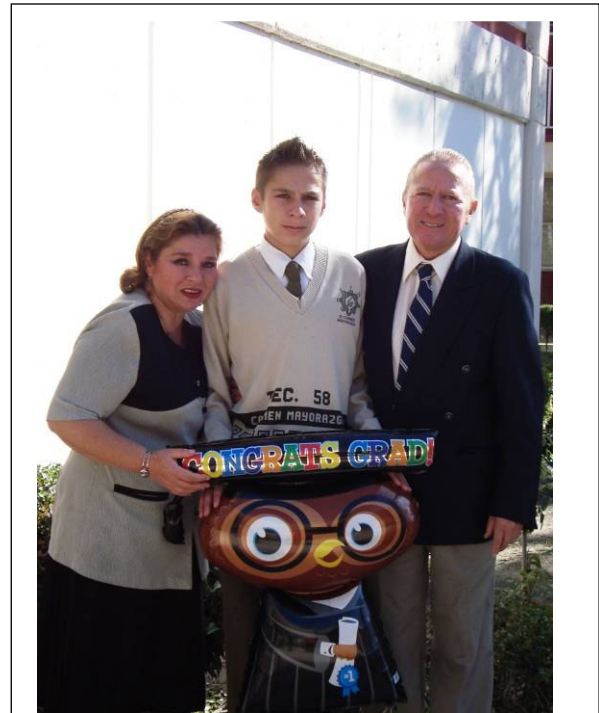


PADRINOS ? OK SURE, BUT WHAT DO WE DO ?

This picture to the right is of our neighbors, whom you have been praying for. Ruth Stella and her 16 year old son are new believers and were baptized in May. Memo is the father and they have 2 older sons. In Mexico it is an exciting thing to graduate from Junior High before entering High school. Since some family members were not able to attend the graduation ceremony, we were asked to fill in for them as “Pardinos”, like god-parents. It is an honor to have this position and generally it has some financial obligations that go along with it. We consented to fill the role and ended up treating them to a taco dinner here at our house afterwards. There was a mandatory mass in the morning for students, followed by the graduation ceremony at the school; it entailed many traditional Mexican songs and some traditional dance as well. The normal gift for a graduate is a huge flower arrangement, balloons, etc. It was funny to see the balloons with English on them, but at least we knew the right one to buy! We had a nice time of conversation that afternoon and playing some table games. We were relieved that being a “Padrino” did not require the giving of any speeches. We are grateful to God that He has allowed this relationship to build to the point it is. We were saddened that Pedro’s two older brothers did not participate at all in the days festivities. Please continue to pray for this family. They are having great financial difficulties, and the rest of the family needs to know their need for the Lord. Memo continues to want to meet weekly with Keith for bible study. May the power of the Word be revealed in his life. We have asked them to consider hosting a Bible study in their home for both of our families. It’s a prayer request!

OUR FIRST BIBLE STUDY ALL IN SPANISH

There are many ways to learn a language that are more interesting than sitting in a class room reviewing grammar rules. We took the opportunity to be a part of a 10 week study of the book of Romans this summer with the house church leader and his wife (Jose Manuel and Paola), pictured to the far right, and another woman (Ester), sitting far left. Debbie, a co-worker here, hosts and facilitates the study. We all take turns reading the Word and guiding the group through a days homework. Sometimes we need to review what we wrote for answers and try to remember what we said because we wrote our answers in Spanish. It’s challenging and humbling. We are also a bit quieter than we normally would be, often wanting to say so much more but just not having the words to say them. We have weekly memory verses which



Ruth Stella, Pedro Miguel, and Memo at Pedro's graduation ceremony from Jr. High

are a bit challenging in a different language...don't ask me to repeat the one from the first week, without some review! We are grateful for bi-lingual bibles that help with our homework, as well as dictionaries! The fellowship has been rewarding, knowing that verbal language isn't the only way to communicate. This study has helped us learn some words that have come up in conversation with neighbors, etc on a spiritual level. It is helping us to learn the vocabulary we need to share the gospel and also how to pray in Spanish.



KEEPING UP WITH TYLER

Tyler has been pretty busy lately. He had some really hard training for an international soccer tournament north of Acapulco which was the first week of July. Keith and Dawn went along; we were treated so kindly by all the players and coaches. It was a great cultural experience and now we have developed better relations with the team. Tyler's team won the title for their division; it was an exciting, muddy week. Tyler has been helping at a medical caravan here from Texas for the past 2 weeks. They are somewhere in the north of Puebla state giving free medical and dental care to the people there. There is also a VBS for the children in the afternoons. Tyler has been helping with the VBS, doing a little translation work and helped as a "runner" during the first part of week one. He was scheduled to be there one week only, but called and asked if he could stay the second week. We are anxious to see him and here all the stories of the weeks and what God has showed him during this time.

Tyler desires to be homeschooled this year so after much prayer, we have decided to do this. There are many factors involved and we are grateful for more time with Tyler. A fellow missionary family has loaned us almost all the materials we need for the year. What a blessing!



Tyler and his coach/trainer Fredy hold the Cup

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN AUGUST

August looks to be a busy month. We are currently waiting for the Newsong team to arrive for a week of English camp from Aug 4-8. Please be praying for the team members, students and missionary team during this busy week. We will be attempting to learn more of the leadership role in hosting work teams here. We are excited to see some good friends from home and pray to be a blessing to them. Danielle, Geoff and Kara will be heading down here for our week of vacation from the 11th- 16th; then Dawn's parents will arrive the 19th for a one week stay. Tyler's birthday is the 22nd; he'll be 16, hard to believe! Pray we'll celebrate it in a way that will be special for him; he'll be very happy to have his grandparents here with him but his sisters will have returned to the States. Please pray for all of our time with team and family this month and special prayers for Tyler to grow into a godly man that He will use mightily for His kingdom. It would be great if you could send Tyler a card to

encourage him (see the Texas address below and give it 2-3 weeks; no packages please). God is certainly stretching all of us, teaching us, purifying us, showing us some things about ourselves that aren't too nice but we rejoice at His work in our lives. "Build up, build up, prepare the way, remove every obstacle out of the way of My people" (Isaiah 57:14,15). May the Lord remove the obstacles, the idols in our own lives so we do not cloud His glory, if that's possible, because this Holy God, the "High and Exalted One, lives forever, He dwells on a high and holy place AND He dwells with the contrite and lowly of spirit." May we, His people, be of humble hearts and contrite spirits in order to bring Him glory. Pray that we love our neighbors as an outflow of our love for God and that we are found faithful.

We are so thankful for each one of you. You are gifts to us and we pray God's blessing on you.

Glory to the One and Only, Jesus Christ,
Keith, Dawn and Tyler



The Goodlings

1215 San Dario Avenue, Suite No 48-496, Laredo TX 78040

Phone - (717) 689-8000 x9207

Skype: (717) 798-3548

dawngoodling@yahoo.com kgoodling@gmail.com tdgoodling@gmail.com

We're on the Web!

See us at: www.lifebytheword.com