

February 2011

Dear Brothers and Sisters

Greetings in the Lords Name! As I write this letter, I find myself in the hospital waiting for my wife Rossy to come out of surgery. Many of you already know this and I thank each one of you for your prayers and support. This is what makes belonging to the body of Christ so great! Our heavenly Father is always with us and we the body are always there for each other! I can't stop being grateful!! To be totally honest, I am at peace trusting in God that all will work out, and of course I am also waiting in line after my wife to go in for surgery . That will be challenging for both of us! For those who know me, I have a hard time sitting still. But I will welcome whatever the Lord sends my way!

We finished the year with two newer vans, a 2001 and a 2002 Ford fifteen passenger vans. Thanks to Mark and Patty who donated these vans out of a generous hearts! It was a beautiful drive as Amanda and myself drove down the two vans from Colorado and one was filled with Christmas gifts for all in the ministry! Thanks to the Church of Christ. As Amanda stated, "Its awesome having the security of knowing that God always provides for our needs!"

The day before Christmas Dean, Amanda, Willi from the shelter, and Lulu (a teenager from the House of Grace) all came along to do an outreach with gifts Dean brought over from Sea World. They were very nice new T-shirts and stuff animals. As we passed out the gifts to the prostitutes in the Zona Norte, they were surprised to receive gifts without expecting anything in return! Some did not want to take them until we convinced them that they were really free! No money, and NO sex wanted in return! The message was short and sweet: we brought them the best, because they are the best. And to allow no man to tell them that they are worthless and good for nothing and that nobody is going to want them including God Himself because they are out of God's Grace. That is just a lie from Satan to keep you enslaved! Just as Jesus showed His great love for us, that yet while were still sinners, Christ died for us! Some had tears while they heard the message and we prayed for them! Like Amanda said, "Sometimes we forget this message is not only for ourselves but for others. We tend to push people down instead of raising them up. Instead of telling them 'good job' because they did their best, we tell them their best is not good enough; that they're not good enough! All that does is beat them down to the point they believe they will never be worth anything".

The next day, of course, was Christmas and we all gathered together to celebrate the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ. The ranch, the house of Grace and of course all those who had no family were welcomed. We had close to 100 people with lots of turkey and food. It was so much fun and a great time of worship that was unbelievable, with everybody singing praises to the King with such joy, it was a sight to see!

In January Lulu ,who 18 years old, has left to be with her family. This is one great work God is doing. The whole family has come to the Lord and have become part of the our church and Lulu is part of the worship team. Her mother is in our bible school along with the Lulu's step father who has grown much in every way! Lulu has been in the USA, in orphanages here in Tijuana, and Ensenada and so on. With her father leaving at a very early age, lots of struggles and bitterness and hatred have controlled her life. But now, there is forgiveness and love again and a stepfather that loves her. Please keep then in your prayers for this is new for them.

As we start the New Year, we are looking forward to seeing new faces, new projects and learning what the Lord has in store for us. Through His strength, guidance and love are we able to help as many people as we do. Yet there are still so many to reach out to, those who need help that can't afford to help themselves. So we find our selves waiting on groups that keep canceling because of fear or other reasons. Putting our selves where we have to take the little resources we have and use them to the furthest extent as we try to be the hands of our Lord Jesus Christ!

First thanks to those who continual to give sacrificially, thanks for your faithfulness! Those donations keep us go-

ing, especially now that many funds are not coming in because of groups cancelling! Thanks a million!

To kick off the New Year we took our youth group to Pedregal where houses are literally falling apart from the storms. We took with us nails, hammers, tarps and 18 youth and 4 adults. We went to several different houses to cover their entire roofs. We prayed and worship with each family and then we got to work. The youth were able to go out and do something for other people. They were able to fellowship together and work as a team. The families were very grateful. As a result, a young man came to Christ. His name is Giovanni and he is 20 years old. His home was one of the houses chosen. His house has dirt floors which become mud when it rains and with no running water or electricity. He lives with his mother who is not mentally stable and his 18 year old brother who is unable to walk and has been confined to his bed his whole life; both whom he supports. After helping us finish his home, he continued with us to help with the other roofs. Our youth were very much impressed with Giovanni, a hard worker and a young man willing to be responsible for his family even though he had his own dreams, but like he said ,they are only on hold for now! After working all afternoon, we invited Giovanni to pizza and back to the mission house for a debriefing.

Because of doing what Christ has called us to do, not only did we help others see his love, but Giovanni came to acknowledge Christ as Savior.

This city is in so much need for God's love. Christ is ready for people to serve Him. He has called all of us to go out and serve. For even the son of man did not come to be served, but to serve and give His life a ransom for many. **(Mark 10:45)** Would you consider coming down and helping us serve? We need groups ready and willing!

This past Christmas we fed more people than ever before, at the shelter as always was full with 100 men and our Christmas outreach was full with over 300 children! The mission house was full with 70, some were from the ranch and others who had no family were invited. The house of Grace, of course, had their own celebration, since now there are so many children. Also celebrating was our other 3 small churches located in different parts of Tijuana. We were all very busy and when the time came for my family and I to take some time off, we were exhausted!

So again, thanks a million for believing in us and for your prayers! Remember, we are only a stone's throw away, yet the living situations here would never be acceptable in the states and many other parts of the world. Help us to help those who can't help themselves and share the Gospel of Jesus Christ with them!

Love, Carlos and Rossy

