

Fall letter from Dave and Ella McMullen: **We have a Job! (and so do you.)**

We count ourselves extremely blessed! We have a job to do that pays very good wages! And so do you!

Lot's of people misunderstand about what Ella and I do. My own Daddy was one of our best supporters, but almost without fail every time that we would return from Mexico after a season of work in the harvest fields there, he would ask "Did you have a good vacation?" Now if by "vacation" he meant did we enjoy our time in Mexico, I would gladly answer yes. But Paul (by the Holy Spirit) in Eph. 4:1 calls our calling in Christ (and yours) "vOcation": (dictionary definition: a particular occupation, business, or profession; calling.) Ephesians is full of talk about this - especially chapters 3 and 4.

Paul enjoyed his vOcation also. He speaks in 1Cor.9:16-19 of his own need of and joy in preaching the gospel. In verse 17 he says: "if I do this thing willingly, I have a reward: but if against my will, a dispensation of the gospel is committed unto me." Dispensation! to dispense is: "distribute: administer or bestow, as in small portions". And what a 'commodity' we have to dispense! It is "the power of God unto salvation!" He says in verses 18 and 19, that he wants to make the gospel "without charge" (although in reality it is more valuable than anything we could distribute) "that I might gain the more." And who are "the more"? They are the "gentiles" (Greek: "ethnos") in Eph. 3:6. That is, every "ethnic" group.

He counted himself especially blessed (and so do we) that God would put him (and us) into the service of reaching these people, and empower him (and us) to do it. in Eph.3:8 he says " Unto me, who am less than the least of all saints, is this grace given, that I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ".

And what about the "very good wages" I spoke of in the first paragraph of this letter? Like many these days, we are stretched beyond our means. But: John 4:35- "Say not ye, There are yet four months, and then cometh harvest? behold, I say unto you, Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest. 36 And he that reapeth receiveth wages, and gathereth fruit unto life eternal: that both he that soweth and he that reapeth may rejoice together. 37 And herein is that saying true, One soweth, and another reapeth. 38 I sent you to reap that whereon ye bestowed no labour: other men laboured, and ye are entered into their labours."

Now that is very good wages indeed. A wise man in more recent years has said: "He is no fool who gives what he cannot keep to gain what he cannot lose." You can't get that sort of eternal return on buying Gold, or Real Estate, or a new car, or house or church building. You not going to get that sort of return investing in horse races, or politics, or even education or research.

I have recently communicated with Noe, Daniel, Delia, Abel, and many others. These all have received that same gospel, and been transformed by it, and have become "servants of all" like Paul so that they too might "gain the more". And as they go, their numbers increase, and the Power of His love reaches out farther and farther in a never ending story of His Grace. There is no better "payback" or wages for any job in the world.

And a great portion of the joy of this is just that: that we are doing it victoriously together as one body in Christ. Does it cost? Yes! Time, energy, money, etc. (what are our lives for?) Paul said that he had for Christ and the gospels sake suffered the loss of all things "...and do count them but dung..." Salvation is a free gift, but it should and will take everything you are and have to make proper use of it. And in the end it will be worth every once of "dung" you can muster.

I am not of the school that divides Gods people into three distinct groups: pray-ers, go-ers, and give-ers. I am convinced that all of us have all three responsibilities. The scripture is clear that each of these services is essential. None of us can go unless we are sent. We cannot give unless first we receive. And we cannot pray effectively unless we agree with God in it.

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We hope to be heading South into Mexico again in the first part of November. We are now in the process of preparing thousands of CDs and DVDs in many different Indian languages; loading the motorhome and the van; gathering supplies for the winters outreach; communicating with co-workers, etc.

The first month of travel in Mexico typically costs us about 4000 to 4500. That gets us with our motorhome and van to Sinaloa. and provides sufficient to make an annual foray into regions farther South to encourage and supply some of the workers there who are also trying to reach out to migrant workers from the Indian areas. Then each month after that until spring we typically spend 3000 to 3500 dollars on car and living expense. All of that is in addition to the cost of our investment in equipment and supplies for distribution of recorded gospel portions. That investment is made during the summer months. We intend to go. We hope that we can do so without incurring further debt. We think there is no better investment. Join with us in the Go - in the Give - and in the Pray!

Working with you to "gain the More" Dave and Ella McMullen

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Left: Dave and Ella. Beside our “ministry vehicle”. The work multiplies, but so do the workers, in answer to believing prayer. Already we are hearing Of teams from Flagstaff, AZ,, Boise, Id., From Alaska, and other places planning to come and participate.

Then there are faithful men and women who live in the area, or come from other parts of Mexico to Serve the Lord in seeking and saving the lost. on the right is Cande, winner of souls, supporter of the weak, Our hostess and dear friend. Here she is interacting with the Children before the movie - Teaching them with coloring papers, and colors, and Bible Stories.



Left: This is an old picture but illustrates a Problem that we have sometimes: That is that some of the camp owners won't let us into the camps, so we have to find other ways to reach the people. Here they watch with rapt attention the life of Christ on film, through barbed wire. We face that sort of problem now in about six camps. Most are open to us, but pray for us and with us about those that are not. Even when we have to work through a fence, the fruit is plentiful, and good. “The word of God is not bound”