

Another long overdue letter from Dave and Ella. We are in Mexico again since mid November. Our 'new to us' motor home made the trip admirably, and then we left it in the Culiacan area at Jose and Cande's home, and went on to visit in several southern states. Ella is down there now with our Grand daughter. Her knees have been bothering her for several years, and (although we didn't plan on it) at last she has received the 'knee replacement' surgery that she needed. Through the blessing of God she was able to get the best doctors in town, and they have been very attentive. Here they are making a 'house call' at our Grand daughters home. Xochil (standing) is a highly recommended general practitioner, and a special friend of our Grand daughter. She got us very special pricing (less than \$7000.00 US money everything included). And then she has been to the house almost every day since the surgery to check on Ella and make her as comfortable as possible. The surgeon (right-front) is considered the best in the area, and we were told that he never makes house calls, but as you can see he did with Ella. - and at no extra charge.



We thoroughly enjoyed the visit with our Grand daughter And her family, and had a Thanksgiving feast with them and her husbands extended family (before this surgery). The basic purpose of our trip to that part of the world was to visit Christian workers who are, or might be, interested in working in the migrant labor camps to bring the gospel to the Indian people. In that regard please pray for:

- 1: Victor, Claudia and Lupita in Autlan, Jalisco. They have been visiting 20 or so camps in that area. They are now sidelined for awhile because of serious illness – Victor and Claudia s son is hospitalized with leukemia.
- 2: Barbara also in Autlan, Jalisco. A fairly new Christian already visiting one camp, and asking for information about Indian language materials. She is a University professor and is thinking of devoting full time to serving the Indian people in the gospel.
- 3: Gabriel and family in Ciudad Guzman. Jalisco. Visiting several camps as they are able.
- 4: Edgar and Mary in Colima, Colima. Have been involved and want to be involved again.
- 5: Lencho and family in San Gabriel, Jalisco. Visiting one very large and isolated camp.
- 6: Jorge and his family in San Miguel, Jalisco. Visiting another very large and isolated camp.
- 7: Obdulia and her small team of Nahuatl Christians in Barra de Navidad, Jalisco. Visiting The Mixteco people who come to that area to work in the Chiles.
- 8: Chuy and family in Navajoa. Visiting Mayo villages.
- 9: Javier and the team he is a part of working in Estacion Bamoa, where there are about 6 large migrant camps.

Ella is recovering well, and we expect that within a month or so she will be able to join me here in the Culiacan area. I returned here on Dec. 15 without her, because we have a project taking place beginning today Dec 28 – Workers from (mostly) Flagstaff Arizona who will be here just over a week.

We expect to be here through the end of March when the harvest season ends. We have discovered several new camps, and the doors are wide open. Religious fervor on the part of some priests has tried to close some doors, but not meeting with much success: “These things saith he that is holy, he that is true, he that hath the key of David, he that openeth, and **no man shutteth**; and shutteth, and no man openeth....” Rev.3:7
 You may have heard that Mexico is undergoing a 'drug war' This is true. The President of Mexico has taken a strong stand against drug trafficking, and at the same time traffickers from South America have decided to move their operations into Mexico. Different 'crime families' are fighting with each other over 'turf' and of course fighting against the governments efforts to stop them. The area that we are working in is a center of this drug

war. Regularly we here of murders and mayhem in the two largest cities nearby, and in the villages surrounding. This has been the case since we first started to come to this area, but it is more intense now than ever before.

Through your prayers, by God's grace we have been protected thus far, and we continue to trust in His protection. We have often been advised to stay off of the roads after dark, but we cannot do that and still serve these people in the gospel, since they are working in the harvest fields during daylight hours. So, again, thank you for praying.

Our desire is to reach the families and individuals who cannot speak good Spanish. Nearly all of them are comfortable in their native dialect, and we like to show Jesus movie in those dialects when we find that most of them speak one dialect.

In camps where there are mixed languages we fall back on Spanish for the movie, but still try to get to each family an audio recording in their own language. 1 Corinthians 14:11: "Therefore if I know not the meaning of the voice, I shall be unto him that speaketh a barbarian, and he that speaketh shall be a barbarian unto me."

Did you ever notice how the urgent crowds out the essential? "Essential" for a child of God means things like personal prayer and personal Bible study. Things like sharing the gospel of Christ with your neighbor, finding a way to get the gospel to the millions in the world who have not yet heard it. It's amazing how things like a telephone or doorbell ringing or the importance of a coming election can sidetrack us time after time. The Great Commission was given to a small group of dedicated people. In order to accomplish it each one had to leave something behind - some unfinished work. Some unanswered call. It may not have been something, but someone. God has made us so complete, and so perfectly that even in our fallen state we (as individuals or corporately) still can achieve nearly anything we set our minds and hearts and wills to and even in ventures contrary to the expressed will of our God! And even more so when there are numbers of people cooperating to an end. Look at the building of the Tower of Babel where God himself said that left to themselves: "...now nothing will be restrained from them, which they have imagined to do...." Gen.11:6.

But those few followers of Christ did accomplish in their day that worldwide task of preaching the gospel to every creature of every nation kindred and tongue. (Note Col.1:6 "...in all the world." and verse 23: "...the gospel, which ye have heard, and which was preached to every creature which is under heaven....") Nothing else was as important to them as the expressed will of the Master. And they did it without motorised transport, electronic communication, or any of the other 'modern advantages' that we have at our disposal. And they did it within their own generation and under duress of persecution.

I say all of this not merely to shame us that we have not done the same job in our generation (or any recent generation). But rather to demonstrate that it is a reachable goal. Under the guidance of the Master they did it! And so can we! God, in Jesus name, Give us each the wisdom and grace to make the hard decisions and the right decisions to get this essential task done.

Yours for Him,

*Dave & Ella
McMullen*

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Donations will reach us here in Mexico if sent to: Dave and Ella McMullen, (or for a tax exemption receipt to: Faith Baptist Church) at 4 Strong Row, Bisbee, AZ.85603, but letters sent to that address will not be read or answered until we return in the spring. For a quicker answer write by email to DavidM@HsFeet.net, or leave a message on our message phone at 520-432-3352. Those messages will be forwarded to us in Mexico.