

Hope for Mexico

All by the grace of God. All for the glory of God.

Light vs. Darkness

Perhaps you recall a few weeks ago when “El Ponchis”, a child hit man associated with the drug cartels was convicted to only three years for four murders. He was arrested very close to where I work with Centro Restauracion and four other churches in the state of Morelos.

Two relatives of members of Centro Restauracion have been killed by drug cartels. One was hung from a bridge along with several others and shot to death.

Centro Restauracion has determined to no longer sit back and do nothing about all of this violence. With what Pastor Octavio describes as “holy anger” he has begun to mobilize his members to get out of the four walls of their church and go out and transform their community.

In my last newsletter I reported about Centro Restauracion’s “40 Days of Community” project to

serve the community. The mayor of Jiutepec attended the inauguration. That very day six bodies were found in a car about twenty minutes away from where we were working.



The mayor of Jiutepec inaugurates 40 days of community.

Part of the project was to teach values classes to parents and children at several schools. As the 40 Days of Community came to an end, government officials asked Centro Restauracion to continue their community service but to expand beyond the county and to work in the entire state. Desperate for answers to all of the violence, the government is turning to the church to teach values to the next generation. Pray that God would grant us wisdom and positive influence as we work to impact the state of Morelos on every level.



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We're back in Mexico. Now is the time to partner with us!

We just got back from a whirlwind trip to Washington and Illinois. We really enjoyed getting to see so many friends and family even if only for a brief moment. Some highlights were reconnecting with friends we hadn't seen in over twenty years (thank you FB). Another highlight was Vicki getting together with her whole family for the first time in sixteen years.

However, traveling to the United States wasn't just all fun and games. Over a two month period we shared about our ministry in Mexico about sixty times with leaders and members of fourteen different churches.

We know that many have been affected by the economy. Unfortunately so have we. Over the

last two years we have lost about 2/3 of our monthly support. We have tightened our belts as much as we possibly can as well as having raised some new monthly supporters.

However in order to be able to continue serving in Mexico we still need to raise about \$700/month. That's fourteen people committing to support us \$50/month or twenty four people committing to support us with \$30/month.

Several of you let us know that you would consider partnering with us in our ministry. I would like to encourage you, now would be a great time to start!!! Please see the back of this letter for details on how to partner with us.



Enjoying beautiful Washington State

We're gearing up for a big autumn

Ten million live in poverty, just in one city...Mexico City.

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Ten million live in poverty, just in one city...Mexico City. Over 40,000 have died in Mexico over the past four years due to the drug cartel violence. Part of me feels like we are still just such a small drop of the Kingdom of God in the middle of so much violence and despair. But we are starting to gain momentum and with God's help...and your help, and your prayers, we will grow and we will have a powerful impact in Mexico now and in years to come.

I am very excited about our next season in ministry. In October Bob Logan who is known around the world as an expert in church planting and church growth will be in town. He will be leading a conference focused on mobilizing churches to transform Mexico City's slums from poverty to spiritual, material and social wholeness.

We're also working on other fronts. On the first page you read about how government leaders in the violence ridden state of Morelos have invited

Pastor Octavio to expand the work of his church into the entire state. Pastor Octavio's church is not the only one seeking to mobilize his church to impact the community. We are currently working with four other churches in Morelos.

And back in Mexico City, the leaders of Jesus de Nazareth Church (featured in my last newsletter) after years of losing members have now turned the corner. They're not only beginning to grow, they are also beginning to teach other struggling churches how they can improve their condition.

Currently I am working with 8 churches. My prayer is that by the end of 2012 I will be working with 25-30 churches in Mexico City and the State of Morelos.

"You know you're an MK (a Missionary Kid) when..."

...furlough does not mean vacation."

For the first time in four years our family had the opportunity to go to Washington. We had a lot of fun, met new people and did a lot of things we had never done before. I'm really thankful for the people we met this trip, but I think I was happier the morning of August 9th when we got on our plane to come home.

When we expressed our happiness about returning several people asked us why we wouldn't want to stay in Washington. The truth is no matter how beautiful the mountains in Washington are, Mexico is our home and my sisters and I can't imagine living anywhere else. (Written by Rebeca)

Staying in Touch

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First Hashman family reunion in 16 years!

Good friends, good weather...
It doesn't get any better than this!

Please Keep Us In Your Prayers:

- For Vicki and the girls as they start another school year.
- For Mexican churches to rise up to really transform Mexico in the midst of all of the poverty and violence.
- For God to use me even more powerfully to equip churches and leaders.

Financial Support

Checks should be made out to:
Cup of Cold Water Ministries
PO Box 318, Newark, Illinois 60541.

815-228-1442

Please designate your support for:
Michael and Vicki Cadena

At Cup of Cold Water's web site: www.cwcm.org
you can use a credit or debit card, pay pal or set up an electronic funds transfer.