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SERVING WITH WORLD INDIGENOUS MISSIONS

Hey guys. Sorry, I have been late on my updates lately. I've been very busy, so here are some of the highlights. We returned to the state of Campeche where I visited the pyramids with the youth group. The group expanded from seven kids to thirty. My best friend Abdias and I shared our testimonies, and he led ten new kids to the Lord. We also shared basic Bible fundamentals like sin's nature and the cross's redemption.

one person who is 72, made a public declaration of what the Holy Spirit has done in their hearts and their obedience to follow the Lord.

some solid Mexican missionaries. Gullie and his wife Andrea have been discipled by Adonías and his wife for many years and now have been visiting there evangelizing, and we should be going on a trip there together now that Gary and Patti have returned to the States for her hip surgery.



Youth group in Campeche

Baptisms with Adonías

Patti, Gullie's daughter, and I making dumplings

A month later, we returned there with another missionary group called BASE. They are a group of Mexican and American missionaries focusing on leadership training and youth groups. I had the privilege of translating for some of them with my bad Spanish because their other translators were from different groups. The thing that really amazed me is the youth group responded to me much more than these other missionaries, even the ones that spoke Spanish because they were familiar with me. At this point, they look at me as one of their leaders, which is very touching.

Adonías performed seven baptisms where people, as young teenagers to

We returned later to the state of Jalisco. That is the circle of silence region of the country where there and the surrounding states have 2% Christians and very few missionaries. We were there to drop Abdias off to do church planting for the next two years. Please keep this young brother in your prayers.

I also had the privilege of connecting my missionary friends Gary and Patti with Adonías and our friend Gullie and his family. Patti broke her hip several months ago, and they are both on the elderly side, so he has been busy taking care of her. My goal was to get them connected with

We also visited the first church where I evangelized with Adonías and his missionaries in the state of Quintana. We were there to emphasize the Bible fundamental program the denomination is working on with local pastors and parents. We also visited Cancun. We were not there on vacation, however. We were there where the Mexicans that work there live. There the denomination had three new church plants, mainly from Guatemalan immigrants, where the domination stems from.



Me and Adonías with other pastors in Cancun

They had made a united cell group for the youth with more than 70 kids, where I also shared my testimony and emphasized the importance of God's wanting a living relationship with them through Jesus. It was wonderful to see people so passionate about the Lord, His Word, and evangelism. Three things to pray for me. First, my Spanish. My Spanish is improving immensely. My main problem is with comprehension and learning new words. It is still slow, but I am surprised at how much I do understand.

there all the time, and the people are extremely friendly. They have a few small universities and a lot of people in their mid-twenties that are interested in home Bible groups and studies, as well as other people that are interested in these groups from the religious traditions they have seen. I'm always shocked by the conversations of people that are surprised Christians have groups like this – a place where they can be honest about problems without being judged, ask questions about God's Word, be discipled, and have deep fellowship with brothers.



Saying good bye to Abdias in Jalisco



Introducing myself and mission to local churches

Because of this, Adonías and I, God willing, would like to start a group there. I attend a small home study there with another Mexican missionary friend of mine. But one of the problems is it is not in his home. We have to work around the family's schedule, and it can be hit or miss. But if I have my own home, I can host as many studies as I want at other people's convenience.

Mexican missionary friends. I will be much closer to Pastor David Beck, who also lives there. I'll have plenty of accountability as I continue with the immersion process. Fortunately, I have the initial money to get a place with the first month's rent and deposit, a mini fridge, and a microwave. I can get other items like a stove, washing machine, and furniture little by little. These other things will take several thousand dollars over time. Right now, my friends, the Becks, are continuing to look for a good place for me to live in God's timing. So please be praying about all of these things.

The second is general finances. As everyone is aware, inflation is awful right now, and the dollar is not doing so great. The exchange rate is very bad as well. As an example, \$100 dollars when I first arrived here could get me around \$2400 pesos. Now I'm only getting about \$1700, depending on the exchange rate for the day. Because of this and the fact that 10% of my budget goes to my mission's organization, 20% to 25% goes to taxes, and my tithe, I get only 70% to 65% of my \$1200 a month budget which I have decided to raise to \$1600 a month.



Gary, Adonías and Gullie discussing missions

Third is a new home. Things have been going well with Adonías, but I feel it's time to have my own home in the small city of Comitán. I visit

With the support of WIM leadership, I believe it would be beneficial for me to have my own place not only for hosting studies but also as a place to rest, not just physically but spiritually and emotionally, so I can continue to pour out in ministry. I will still, of course, be under Adonías as a mentor and go with him on trips and continue to work with my other

If any of you feel like the Lord is leading you to help financially, please go to the link on my WIM page or my website. If it's for housing, make a special note that it is for that so I can put it aside for necessities.

Thank you for everything, and God bless you all.

Michael Barton

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