

MARCH OUTREACH IN ACAYUCAN: GOOD NEWS AND BAD NEWS

We left at daybreak and arrived at the home of Pastor Horacio and Toni Bibar at the designated hour. We prepared the meal and made the coffee for our guests in the streets. We then drove to “whiskey lane”, as Pat likes to call it. Not only are there drunks sleeping in the grass, but lots of drug activity from the little barroom across the street. This is where the bad news comes in. We were not permitted to rent the Percha, the little place that had the showers, because the people in the area, along with the owners, didn’t want “our guests” to infect their facility with their dirty clothes and bodies. So until we can find another place that will allow us to use their facilities to let them bathe, exchange clean clothes for their old dirty ones, and feed them, we will have to continue to minister to them on the streets.

The neighbors have even complained about us hanging around with the drunks. It reminds me of when the Pharisees were offended by Jesus talking to the sinners and they tried to devise a way to kill HIM. (Matt 15:8-9, 12:2,9-10) James 2:1-4 states that, “My brothers, as believers in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ, don’t show favoritism.”

The good news is that we only found 2 street people because the rest had found a job and were working. Again, both of them knew the word of God. That brought to mind how important it is to know the word of God and hide it in your heart. Having head knowledge of the Word of God isn’t sufficient, as they have, but to apply the Word of God to our lives so we can be walking testimonies of the Great I AM! It’s just not enough to know Jesus and know HIS word, as displayed by our street friends because as drunk as they were, they were able to quote scriptures. We have to know the power of the Word. It’s just not enough to be Christians full of the knowledge of Christ, because satan knows of Him too. James 2:19 states; “You believe that there is one God. Good! Even the demons believe that and shudder.” We have to die to self-daily wanting and accepting change in our life so we can hear and obey our Lord Jesus Christ when HE speaks to us. Having an intimate relation with HIM is the key to help us from falling victim to satan’s schemes. We have to have our faith and our actions working together so our faith can be made complete. A person is justified by what he does and not by faith alone. James 2:22-25 says, “Obey God’s message! Don’t fool yourself by just listening to it. If you hear the message and don’t obey it, you are like people who stare at themselves in a mirror and forget what they look like as soon as they leave. But you must never stop looking at the perfect law that sets you free! God will bless you in everything you do, if you listen and obey, and don’t hear and forget.”

I’d like to report that one of the fellows who went with our friend Eligio up in the mountains in January, is still studying the Word of God and is holding down a job. Carlos, whose picture was featured in our Feb. issue of the newsletter, is currently working for the police as a night watchman. The woman, who was pictured in the group shot in Feb.’s issue of our bulletin, met us today to tell us that she too is working and attending church with her daughters. Two brothers who were at the Jan. meeting have also asked for help and are currently at a rehabilitation center in San Cristobal de las Casas in Chiapas, a town about 12 hours south of San Andres. We are currently planning a trip within the next couple of months to bring a small group of six or more that wish to go on their own accord. We think it would be easier to take them in the van rather than use the local transportation because of their personal needs and attention that they will need during the 12-hour ride. They wish to change their lifestyle and know that only Jesus can do this. Pray that the enemy will not keep them bound in their ways and those who wish to be rehabilitated will be given the opportunity to do so. Pray also for Pastor Horacio and his wife and family who have been receiving much opposition for the work they have been doing with these street people. We go once a month to help them disperse food, clothing, and the Word of God but they go out weekly to visit not only “our guests” but also their families. It is their families that give them most of the trouble spreading rumors and making things hard on them. One rumor they tried to spread amongst their drunk relatives was that those who left to be rehabilitated are now living in worse conditions than they had on the street and are only given bread and water to eat preparing them so we can sell their organs. Horacio called the center, which is run by a missionary from Angleton, Texas by the name of Robert Morales, to verify how the men were doing only to find them doing wonderfully well thus dispelling the rumors! You would think that the family would be grateful that their kinfolk are being saved from the lifestyle of the streets, but until they see the change in their lives, they won’t believe because they lack the faith, the substance of things hoped for and the evidence of things not seen.

FILMS HELP TO EDIFY THE LOCAL BODY OF CHRIST:

Recently a Pastor dropped by the house to tell us that Pat and the film ministry have sure been a tremendous blessing to him and his church. He mentioned that many in the church have a new

understanding of the gospel and are refreshed and motivated by the films. Praise God for the film ministry. We ask you to believe with us that God will continue to use this means to bless the body of Christ as well as to reach out and save those who have been blinded from the truth.

PRAYER NEEDS:

We often receive questions from you, our co-laborers on the field, asking where does our support come from and what can you do to help.

We'd like to share some ministry opportunities you can partake in as our main support comes from individuals like you our readers.

MONTHLY NEEDS:(apart from our normal cost of living expenses)

1. Internet access \$30.00 This allows us to communicate with you on a regular basis through email receiving & sending prayer requests, and hearing from you what the Lord has been doing in your life. This helps to bridge the gap between.
2. We are currently looking for a place to rent that we could use to house the clothing ministry. Unsure at this time of a monthly price.
3. Gas. This is probably our biggest monthly expense due to the exorbitant gas prices here, which are currently at \$2.15 a gal, and continues to rise weekly if not daily. Pat travels 5 nights a week to various cities and towns showing evangelistic films within a 2 hour radius of our home and the 6th day is spent traveling to the ranch churches of La Barra and El Real. We could spend anywhere from \$80.00 to \$160.00 in one week depending upon where the films are being shown.

ONE TIME NEEDS:

1. Transportation costs for bringing those from Acayucan who wish to go to Chiapas to be rehabilitated \$250.00 US
2. Transportation fees for bringing local pastors and leaders to various conferences throughout the year this price will depend upon the where the conference is located and how far we have to drive to get them there.
3. Chick Tracts and other gospel tracts for kids of all ages. (Contact Chick Publications at: (909) 987-0771 www.chick.com. or write to them: PO Box 3500 Ontario, CA. 91761-1100 for further info. Chick tracts get read and are rarely turned down.)
4. Spanish Bibles: About 500 New testaments needed to give to the new converts per year and approx. 60 1960 King James Version Spanish bibles.
5. FM3's give us permission by the Mexican Officials to practice religious freedom in their country. They cost us approx. \$625.00 a year to renew them. They will come up for renewal in June.
6. Medicine to help the sick. This varies and depends upon the degree of illness. In the past God has allowed us to be able to provide food for Ruth, a 2 year old girl in La Barra who needed to undergo an operation for a cleft palate but was denied because she was malnourished and underweight. Now she is doing better and is awaiting her operation. Pastor Goyo's son, Santiago, is in need of his daily epileptic medicine. These are just two of the many people we have had the privilege to help in the last year.
7. New Spanish films cost approx. \$20.00each. Recently we discovered one of the Left Behind Series of videos in Spanish. We are currently to locate the others or maybe any other news ones that may be out there. If you or anyone you know has information concerning a Spanish video that could be used as a witness tool or to edify the church, please drop us a line at our address here in Mx. located on the front of the newsletter.