

May 5, 2009

Dear Ministry Partners:

I left Chicago on April 21 for Cuernavaca to visit the ladies who were in my Bible study groups, talk to my pastor in Mexico, pay my bills, and pack and store my stuff.

There was a general fear among the locals because of the outbreak of swine flu in Mexico City. Many people from Mexico City come to Cuernavaca for the weekend and some people commute daily to and from Mexico City for their jobs. It was interesting to see that when one hears that you just came from Mexico City; people do not want to be near you. Some people wore masks while shopping or taking public transportation to protect themselves from the flu. The usual way of greeting with a handshake, a kiss on the cheek and a hug was avoided by some people especially if the other person had a cold.

It was great to see all of the ladies that were in my Bible study groups. Some are in a small group with other leaders but others are not. I was able to talk to some leaders to follow up on some of the ladies that are still not in small groups. Praise the Lord many of them are attending church!



Reunion with the ladies in my Bible study group Apr. 24, 2009

It was good to see all the friends I have made in the three years I have lived in Cuernavaca. I realized the Lord has blessed me with many special friends in Mexico.

One friend is Lilia. She cooks Mexican food for the ladies that I invite to the evangelistic events I organize. I have formed a special bond with Lilia. We usually eat, read Scripture and pray together. When I came to visit, her first news was, "Angie, God answered our prayer!" She was scheduled to have an operation to have a cyst removed last December. She was given some medication and the cyst disappeared. She was very grateful for the times we had prayed for her health and saw how God worked in her life. Now, she tells me, "Angie, I will pray for your health so that you can come back quickly to Cuernavaca." Praise the Lord!!!



My friend Lilia



My other friend, Marco

Another friend is Marco. He is our church janitor. He sets up the room where I hold my Bible studies and evangelistic events. He is usually the first person to know whenever I have car trouble. The times my car battery has gone dead, Marco has replaced the battery and would never charge me. When I am in the U.S. he comes to my home in Cuernavaca to check my car. What a willing servant for the Lord!

Another good friend is our church doctor, Dr. Rogelio Silva. He is a pediatrician and a pediatric surgeon but often gets called whenever anyone in the church is ill. Whenever I get sick he is often the first one to know. This doctor has a heart for the poor indigenous groups of Mexico. He often takes teams from our church to go on medical mission trips.



My pediatrician friend, Dr. Silva

I am blessed to have Mexican brothers and sisters who often go out of their way to help me with anything I need. What a privilege we have to be part of Christ's body to serve others and to be served!

I plan on being in the Portland-Vancouver area during May and June for a focused time of seeking the Lord and to listen to counsel regarding my future. I hope to attend a Hispanic church while in WA State to maintain my Spanish language skills.

As always, thank you for your faithful love, prayers and support.

Prayer Requests:

1. Spiritual, physical and emotional rejuvenation.
2. Protection of the seed planted in the lives of the women who were in my Bible study groups last year.
3. Maintain my Spanish language skills while in the U.S.
4. Financial provision for all the medical expenses incurred in Chicago.
5. Provision of a car while in WA State.

Sincerely,

Angie Velasco