



Dave & Becci Snyder
Missionaries To Mexico
 Apdo. 50 Petatlán, Gro. C.P. 40830
 Tel. (218) 321-4367



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Dear Bethel Assembly,

For several years our youth have gone to Zamora, Michoacan for an event called Missionary Invasion. They have always returned with a renewed desire to serve God and to evangelize. This year we had the opportunity to bring the Missionary Invasion to our church. In spite of the fact that it was last minute we had 140 youth who turned out for the event. Six youth came from two different churches in Acapulco; they rode a total of 8 hours round trip by bus to be at the event. There were 7 other churches from near-by cities that also sent their youth to be trained in street evangelism. In ONE day and a HALF we trained them in 2 major dramas, several small skits, 2 choreographed dances, and a special kids class!

prayed for salvation and these people are being followed up on. We have currently multiplied some of our youth home groups to be able to reach out to the new youth. That night we had a concert in the main plaza with the team that was here ministering throughout the event. Alan Hernandez and the group "Potencia Al Máximo" did a FANTASTIC job. David Rice also brought some powerful challenges to all of us.



Responding to the message

To pull this off you MUST use your imagination. Each of the four evangelism teams would need literature, sound systems, props, cables, microphones and vehicles to transport



Worshiping in one of the services

There were also messages that brought a powerful challenge to the youth about total commitment to the claims of Jesus on their lives to the point of being willing to lay down their lives. This challenge was quickly followed up in a very practical way! They all slept on cement floors! The following day was spent with more challenges from the scriptures and practice, practice, practice. By 3 pm of the second day we were ready. Four teams with over 30 on each team went to the streets of Petatlan to perform, "Festival For The Family" in 8 separate locations. Each team performed at 2 locations. Many



One group practicing a drama

the people! Now the bathroom, that is another issue! Imagine 140 youth lined up to use 4 bathrooms and 2 showers! We had to make temporary enclosures so they could all shower. First we divided them in half. Half would shower at night and half would shower in the morning. This still was a major undertaking to get 70 youth bathed at night and 70 in the morning. Oh, by the way, these were no typical showers, just water in a barrel and plastic bowl to throw it on you. The shower had to be accomplished in 5 minutes or risk getting a demerit! (Any unpleasant but necessary job-like washing dishes) Speaking of dishes, the kitchen was a whole separate experience. Six teams of women did an amazing job making the food. There were, however, any number of challenges, like cold water for kids who are practicing dances in 100 degree weather. The freezer on the refrigerator was not big enough to hold all the ice necessary, so we improvised. Chunks of ice in plastic bags and in sawdust got us through in a pinch. It was a beautiful time! I heard no complaints from anyone about the floors or the food. It is a thrilling thing when you surrender to God in a fresh and deeper way and then He uses you to touch other people, and to get to know a whole bunch of kids who love Jesus also—is frosting on the cake! All the kids had this awe-struck look on their faces. God is AWESOME!

youths and 1 adult were sent by their pastor to learn how to do street evangelism. They returned home after the event and trained their youth and the members of their congregation and are currently on the streets of Acapulco leading people to Jesus. This is AMAZING! If you have heard anything about what is happening in Acapulco the challenge to lay down their lives to share Jesus is being put to the test!



A evangelism training session

The next event that kept us very busy was a retreat for pastors. While you were enjoying turkey we were at the beach feasting on God's Word and enjoying fellowship with 35 pastors and full-time workers and their families. We ate pretty well, too! Although the facilities are very beautiful, there is no restaurant to feed the pastors and the cost to do that would be prohibitive. So, we take our cooks: Mago, Lupe and Gady; AND food for six meals, pots and



One group evangelizing in the street

Our youth have been to the streets performing the Festival for the Family three times since this training event. We plan to be on the streets once a month with the youth and others from the church to evangelize. Two



Getting ready for the concert in the city plaza

pans, knives, purified water, pitchers, drops to purify the fruits and vegetables. Also included were 12 pies (6 cheesecakes and 6 frozen lime pies) made by Lupe, and three huge fish that were smoked for our first meal. Well, it was not only all things related to the meals that had to be transported, but also everything related to the conference room: 35 chairs, keyboard, guitar, stands, video projector, plastic table in lieu of a pulpit, etc! We had lots of help so these challenges were not a problem. It, however, was necessary to plan very well because the closest store was quite a distance.



Harry Vellekoop teaching the leaders

We had a wonderful time! Harry Vellekoop, currently a teacher at Elim, drew on years of experience in the ministry in both Argentina and Paraguay, to give key insights related to developing leadership within the church and forming biblical church structure. There was also a day of practical teaching of issues related to the pastoral family. Following this two day retreat, Harry gave an intense 2 hour teaching for approx 60 church leaders on conflict resolution. Powerful!

Since our last letter I have been steadily improving from the ACL knee surgery that I had in August. I must work on strengthening the muscles in my right leg to improve activities like stair-climbing. I think I am doing excellent as long as I bear in mind that full recovery is not expected until I reach the 8-12 month post operation mark. In November I had a setback, 36 hours of excruciating pain. The leg was bandaged here in the Petatlan hospital with instructions from the surgeon in Morelia. After

36 hours of this pain suddenly something went back in place and we traveled to Morelia for a check-up. Possible diagnosis: "un raton" (a mouse)! "What, pray tell, Doctor, is a mouse doing in my KNEE?" I asked the doctor as I laughed. His reply, "Well, it is probably a piece of loose cartilage that we call a "MOUSE" floating around the knee from the surgery, but I cannot deal with it unless I see you WHEN you have that excruciating pain." Although he manipulated the knee for an hour trying to trigger the same problem, nothing happened and we drove the trip home the following day. Even though it was time for a check-up the trip seemed in vain. We were, however, delighted both up and back with exquisite panoramas of purple and blue flowers bathing the landscape. They profusely covered the weeds and went up trees and over fields. MOST BEAUTIFUL!



These are highlights of the past couple months but all the normal meetings and prayer meetings, counseling, youth meetings and home group meetings continue on as normal. We thank you for your prayers and your sacrificial giving. You enable us to continue this wonderful challenge of taking the Gospel to the ends of the earth. Rejoice with us at what GOD is doing this Christmas season. Emmanuel, GOD WITH US!

Thank you for your support of \$375.00 the month of October, and \$187.50 the month of November. We appreciate you partnering with us for the people of Mexico.

Dave and Becci