



NEWSLETTER

Serving the Underserved

May 2009

Volume 1, Number 2

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Plant Today Outreach Team (it took two pictures to have everyone included!)



Pat, Linda, Jim, Byron (our driver), Wes, Rob, Pete, Sean F., Sean M,

Mike M. II, Sonda



Rob, Pete, Sean F., Sean M., Mike M. II, Mike M., Cathy, Mike S.

From Mike - Guatemala Outreach, Part 1:

What a trip! Last October when we began talking about an outreach team for May 2009, the date seemed so far away. Now the time has expired and the outreach has come and gone. There is so much in my heart that I want to express but I cannot seem to come up with the words to convey my feelings. I have prayed for days and asked God to give me the words to articulate what is in my heart. His answer to me was to use words and pictures from the team to express my feelings.

My prayer, from the planning stages until the team departed for San Pedro Las Huertas, Guatemala was, "Lord send the people that you want to be a part of the outreach. Your plans are much higher than our plans and your ways much greater than our ways—send Your servants." God certainly heard my prayers. Beginning April 25, with Pastor Steve Goundry and the medical mission team from ICI, on through the community outreach team that went with me on May 6, God's chosen went and **"served the underserved."**



No team member escaped Satan's attempts to prevent them from "being sent." Let me share with you just some of the obstacles thrown up by Satan but defeated by God:

- Several experienced household income much less than anticipated.
- At least three experienced multiple health issues (brief hospital stay for one who had not been in the hospital in over 30 years).
- Multiple spiritual conflicts.
- Purse containing wallet and passport inadvertently left on the back of a wheelchair at the airport for almost one hour and it was NOT touched.
- Swine flu outbreak.
- Eyeglass lenses to be used for outreach late in arriving from Texas.
- AND MY FAVORITE—two of the team members (a.k.a. "Callous" & "Rambo") got lost in Miami Airport trying to get Cuban sandwiches. They ended up outside of the secured area and almost missed the plane.



Miami Departure...



...Here we come Guatemala!



ICI Medical Missions Team

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But where there are attacks, there are victories!

- Family relationships were restored.
- God's financial provision came from unexpected sources.
- Those with health issues trusted God to keep them well.
- No Swine flu.
- Personal possessions protected, even in our human error.
- Eyeglass lenses arrived at 7:30pm, the night before departure.
- And, no one missed the plane!

We had a very diverse group of people: personal trainer, homebuilder, several entrepreneurs, federal government employee, computer technician, optician, firefighter/paramedic, teenage student, and pastor. Each person had their own interesting perspective of Guatemala and the people. Their stories, from their perspectives chronicling how they served, will be shared through pictures and quotes from daily journals kept by each team member. I know that you will enjoy them and be blessed as their stories are told in the next issues of this newsletter.

God bless you and thank you for being a partner with Plant Today!

Mike



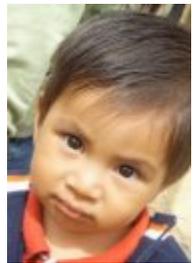
The Beginning . . .

The ICI medical team, led by Pastor Steve Goundry, arrived in Guatemala on April 25th. Using a clinic that had been given to them for the week and a nearby schoolroom, they began their work in San Pedro on Monday morning, April 27th.

This was ICI's first mission to Guatemala and they are all hoping to return sometime in the near future.



One of the greatest blessings for them was when they heard that the people who had been treated at the clinic had talked to their neighbors and commented on how well they were cared for. In the end, the ICI team saw **570** patients and **40** people came to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ or rededicated their lives to Him.



One other person the team had the opportunity to witness to and see saved was a waitress at the hotel where they were staying. She had watched them all week and finally opened her heart to one of the women on the team and was wonderfully saved!

To Be Continued . . .