



NEWSLETTER

Serving the Underserved

June 2009

Volume 1, Number 5

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Teaching the children football



Pastor Edwin preaching

The King will reply, 'I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me.' (Matthew 25:40)

Guatemala Outreach, Part 4 -

Festival: Team Member Perspectives

"Today was the Festival in San Pedro. We were able to introduce a lot of kids to a football. Pete brought quite a few Nerf Footballs with him and we handed them out for the kids to play with. I would say a large percentage of the town had never seen a football. But, after a few minutes of showing them how to throw, they had it down and played for a few hours."

"We show up and it's nice to look forward to the day. Right away the team is throwing footballs and prepping glasses. I am helping with the stage. To watch the locals create a stage out of a tarp, bent nails that needed to be straightened to be reused, rope and wire. I would have struggled building the stage because it needed to be better and I realize that what they built was perfect. Their ability to work with what they have is eye-opening."



"Joy. The joy I got when attending the festival. For God to give me the gift to communicate with the people, especially the kids, gave me joy. To see them smiling, happy and for a minute maybe giving them a dream for a better life, [brings joy to] me." *The LORD has done great things for us, and we are filled with joy. (Psalm 126:3)*

"We played catch with the kids. We used foam footballs. They loved them even though they had never seen them before. Then the Guatemalans wanted to beat the gringos in soccer. They did it easily."

"I got to talk to the preacher before he spoke. He leads a church called 'Tragedies of Transformation'. Most of the attendants of that church are ex-gangsters. The preacher, Pastor Edwin, and the translator, George, were both ex-gangsters. Pastor Edwin and one of his buddies who attend his church were enemies in the gangster world. It's amazing how God works."

"On this day, the President of Guatemala came to visit San Pedro. Coincidence? I don't think so. After the President finished his visit, a child/teen/clown minister entertained the children and then took them to the soccer court behind City Hall where a large bounce house was set up as well as a trampoline. They continued to entertain the children and pass out candy and balloons. Volunteers from the local church and other churches assisted."





Nationals vs. Gringos



Pastor Israel and extended family

Give thanks to the LORD, call on his name; make known among the nations what he has done. (1 Chronicles 16:8)



Giving flowers to the Mothers

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“At the end of the Festival a live band played and a message was preached by Pastor Edwin. Just listening to him you can feel the passion he has for people and his desire to lead them to Christ”.

“It was so apparent that the devil could not penetrate or even try to stop this blessed event of God’s work.”

Sunday Morning: Team Member Perspectives

“The team went to *Vid Verdadero, Lluvias de Gracia church, San Pedro*. As we sat in the church service, you could feel the presence of God. It is always amazing to see so many people, with so little, so close to God.”

“It seems because of the few distractions the Guatemalans have [from material things] they are able to hear the Lord and obey so much more than we are able to. Their lives seem so much richer in all that’s important.”

“We attended church today and it felt very comfortable. Very inviting. The passion the locals had for Christ was exciting.”

“Church was a great experience today. I found it didn’t matter that I didn’t understand the words during the worship portion. You could just feel the atmosphere of worship that permeated the church.” *Clap your hands, all you nations; shout to God with cries of joy. (Psalm 47:1)*



“The music was very uplifting and most definitely Spirit driven. Victor, our translator, came to help me and the others to receive God’s message. God will still find a way to speak to me or any other person who is ready to receive his word.”

“I know they have needs but they praise God with total abandon! With a passion! With grateful hearts!”

“In service this morning, I looked up toward the tin roof of this simple little church but I saw the three in one: God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit. I saw a clear picture, though I can’t describe a face! Beneath it was a volcano – spewing fire (active and alive). I heard ‘Let not your heart be troubled.’”

“The children presented a little song for Mothers Day. They were adorable. And the children made all the mother’s a kitchen wall hanging from Proverbs 31. Pete presented all the mother’s with a rose.”



“Most all of the congregation made it a point to stop and thank each one of us as they left. Even if they didn’t speak English and we didn’t speak Spanish they made their gratitude known.”

“[After the service] Rob, Wes, and I toured the Sunday School area. The church is very proud of this area, even though it’s only a fenced area of dirt with a tin roof. They have plans to lay a concrete slab and erect walls for three rooms.”

“The **love** in that service was more evident than I have ever seen. Isn’t that the greatest of God’s commandments? . . . To love one another? I didn’t want it to end.” *All nations whom You have made Shall come and worship before You, O Lord, And shall glorify Your name. (Psalm 86:9)*

To Be Continued . . .