

July 11, 2005

Dear Friends,

Time always seems to slip away so quickly and disappear forever. I have been meaning to write to you for some time now, but the tyranny of the urgent always seems to dictate my activities of late.

First of all, I wish to thank you for your prayers as my daughter Elizabeth and I met up with the group from Newsong Church in June and spent a time of ministry in Mexico with them. We left Manitoba on the evening of June 8th and met up with friend of ours, Dan and Marlys Slaubaugh in Grand Forks, North Dakota. Dan and Marlys represent the Wolford Community Church which, along with other brothers and sisters in the Wolford area have taken the school bus which was purchased two years ago for the ministry, and transformed it into a beautifully painted and roadworthy machine. Dan and Marlys committed themselves to driving the bus down to Texas where we had made arrangements for Ezequiel to have it transported across the border and into Cd. Valles.

We had a minor delay along the way when a driveshaft bearing needed to be replaced along the roadside somewhere in Kansas. Thanks to Dan's skills as a mechanic this was nothing except a minor aggravation along the way. Other than this breakdown and its delays, we made good time, slept little, drove long hours, and arrived at the border safely on the morning of the 11th where we were to meet the group from Newsong church in Grove, Oklahoma.

It is interesting how sometimes Satan seems to attack in very specific areas in a concentrated way. On this particular trip the area of attack was in vehicles. The team from Oklahoma came down with three vehicles and two trailers. I have never once experienced such an all-out attack in the area of vehicular failures as on this trip. While still in the U.S. one van practically cooked an engine and needed to be left in the States. A Christian brother at the border loaned us another van so that we could continue to Mexico, promising to have the broken-down van fixed while we were gone. We arrived at the border to find that there was a problem with the title on the loaned vehicle which caused us another three or four hour delay as we attempted to negotiate an agreement. Finally we were on the road again only to have a tire blow out on one of the trailers along the way, and brand new brakes on a second vehicle lock-up and freeze, placing that vehicle out of commission along the way. It was obvious that Satan, our enemy, did not want us to proceed.

We finally did limp into Cd. Valles at about 1:30 in the morning on Monday – many hours after our planned arrival time for the service on Sunday night. We had medical clinics beginning early Monday morning, so we all got precious little sleep that night and began our day of ministry very tired.

Over the course of the next several days intense ministry was carried on by all of the members of the team – even the youngest team members who were only fourteen years old. We broke into three main groups which all went into different ministries. One team, lead by Patty and Luis Jimenez, ministered in the area of medical clinics. One team went into villages before the clinics arrived and was involved in evangelism and prayer beforehand. Other team members ministered

in door-to-door evangelism and prayer. Others were involved in praying and care for sick and invalids.

My first couple of days were spent with Patty and the medical team to equip them for taking up the baton and continuing the medical clinics in the future without me being with them. During the later part of the week Patty and her team did so well that I was able to be released from them in order to accompany Marty Dyer and other team members into the mountains of southern Huasteca where we were able to encourage the Churches. I was personally blessed to be able to give a moped to pastor Juan Pablo in order for him to be able to expand his ministry of pastoral oversight in his region. This moped was donated by Dr. Skip and Sharon Lee of Georgia. After sitting in storage waiting for the right person to give it to it is now being used as a tool in ministry in the hinterland of Mexico.

Exhausted, having slept very little, and having ministered almost non-stop day and night, we packed up again on the 17th and began to head north for the border. Once again the attack began on our vehicles. We limped slowly north and crossed into Texas weary, hot, cast down, but not defeated, knowing that many, many things had been accomplished in the Kingdom of God, and that the Enemy had been defeated. Many souls were won for the Kingdom. Many saints had been encouraged. Direction was clarified for the work of *Voice in the Wilderness Ministries* – specifically in the areas of clinical work and in the Bible School. And our own hearts were once again refreshed by what God is doing among his people in Mexico.

Elizabeth, Dan and Marlys, and I left the Newsong team in Texas and headed north to North Dakota and Canada while they limped with weary vehicles and bodies back to Oklahoma.

As I have already mentioned, much was accomplished over this whirlwind time of ministry. There are some very exciting things happening in the work in the Huasteca of which we are able to be a part through pastors Ezequiel and Veronica. These, for expediency of space, will need to wait for a subsequent letter. However, in order to whet your appetite let me state that God is opening up the way for a missionary couple from Manitoba to go down to Cd. Valles to minister for a number of months this winter with the objective of advancing the medical ministry and beginning construction on the Bible School. The vision is to train local medical practitioners to continue this ministry so that it will not need to be restricted by outside help. I will write more in the future.

My friends, I am continually humbled and awestruck at your love and faithfulness to the work as it continues through *Voice in the Wilderness Ministries*. We have been able to work in the harvest of souls in a small part of God's Kingdom, and you have been a vital part of that in-gathering of souls through your faithful prayers and giving. May God bless you richly and abundantly as you remain faithful.

Yours in His service,

Steven Frey