

October 8, 2008

Dear Friends,

Greetings from still hot and humid Guaymas, Mexico!! During a prayer time recently, the Lord reminded us of the passage in the gospels, where a woman (Mary of Bethany) brought an alabaster box or flask full of costly perfume and anointed Jesus with her beautiful gift to Him. This same story is recounted in Matthew 26, Mark 14 and John 12, with each eyewitness account differing only slightly. (Note: a passage in Luke 7 shares a similar occurrence, but one that happened earlier, in a different location, with another woman and records a completely different conversation than the one we are looking at.) The account in the gospel of Mark, about what happened when this woman brought her offering to Jesus, describes the flask as being *broken* before it was poured over His head. In the book of John we see that the house was then *filled with the fragrance* of this anointing oil. While we normally view this passage as a picture of true worship – bringing something costly to the Lord to bless and honor Him – He reminded us the other day of another gem of truth which can be found in this account! Study of the New Testament helps us to see that this flask is a picture of our own hearts and lives and the woman a picture of the Holy Spirit. As we allow the Spirit of God to work in our lives until we are truly *broken* before Him, the anointing that is within us, if Jesus (the Messiah, meaning "Anointed One") has a place in our hearts, will spill out and not only touch His heart and bless Him in worship, but will also touch and be a blessing to others as its beautiful fragrance permeates our lives and ministries and the world around us. If we want to walk in the anointing and power of His Holy Spirit in our lives, this place of complete brokenness before Him is a prerequisite. It's something to think about as we each go about our daily lives.



FIRST: Personal/Miscellaneous Short News Bites!!

- In August, our second granddaughter Sophie Helen Griffith, was born – a whopping 8 ½ lbs. Lauren said if they'd had to drive 10 more minutes to the hospital, Sophie would have been born in the car! Mom and baby are both doing well, Gareth is a very proud father, and Hayley loves her little sister! Unfortunately, we were not able to be with Lauren and Gareth this time, but we were able to chat with Lauren by MSN while she was in labor – which helped us to feel like we were a little closer to them on this auspicious occasion.



- Dave had surgery in August here in Mexico to remove a large growth on his neck. The surgery went well and, after recuperating for about a week, he was back up and around. There was also a biopsy done at this time on another growth, which showed that it was benign. It was a huge weight off to get these things looked at and taken care of finally!
- Also in August, Guaymas experienced Julio, which brought huge amounts of rain and flooding. We received 5 ½ inches of rain in two days, when our average annual rainfall is 6 inches!! Because Guaymas has many rocky, desert mountains all through the city, there was much runoff and flooding. Also, the sewers backed up and flooded everyone's houses with sewer water. We had a mess to clean up at our house over the next three weeks or so, but some folks lost everything. We shared as much as we could of our own things to help people get back on their feet. We understand that the city government helped some of the worst hit also. Many streets in the city were completely torn up by Julio, and there was also a rise in eye infections and Dengue fever (including the hemorrhagic variety) for a while. But, praise God, these infectious things have now subsided! ***We just read in the news today that Hurricane Norbert is now predicted to continue north and then swing northeast right over Guaymas by Saturday. Thanks for your prayers for God's protective hand to be on our city and area.*
- We have discovered that rubber/soft plastic does not fare well here, and have had to replace many items which have been destroyed by the heat and humidity. The latest things we have found deteriorated significantly and needing replacement are the rubber seals on our refrigerator and the CD drive inside Dee's computer (which is now sticking shut and leaving a sticky residue on every CD she tries to use). Oh, the joys of life on the mission field!
- In early September, Dave began a weekly teaching series on the Holy Spirit for the leadership team from one of the local churches, at the request of their pastor. He is really enjoying it and feels that this time has been very beneficial to the leadership as well.
- In mid-September, Dee made a trip to Georgia to see her father who is now 85 and has some health problems. They went with her sister to visit other family members in Tennessee, on what was probably his last trip of any length. *We would appreciate your prayers for Dee's father as the Holy Spirit leads.* Dee also had a modified root canal done on a dead front tooth at this time, which has had a bad infection in it for several years. It was very tricky, and she was in the chair for two hours, but the dentist felt his effort was successful. He said he was amazed that she could live with this kind of pain for so long. She told him that after childbirth, anything else is a walk in the park. ☺

Texas Missions Team - late July/early August



The final missions team we hosted this summer was one from the Arlington, Texas area. It was led by Bill and Molly Benninghoff, friends for 20+ years going back to our days in Bible college together, and included





another couple as well as 5 young people. This team was a real joy to work with! They were always prayed up and ready to go when we arrived at their motel, full of enthusiasm, and never complained despite the intense heat and humidity. They helped to clear a grown-over lot filled with trash and the remnants of an old building for a new missions church in the village of Ortiz, ministered at a local church, led an awesome afternoon/evening of ministry to children at the Guadalupe de Guaymas work camp, took kids from a Catholic orphanage for special morning at the

beach, helped at the youth center cleaning and painting, prayed with us and some Mexican friends for the city and region, and broke into small groups led by bilingual friends to pray with people around the downtown area one evening. Thank you so much – Bill, Molly, Selwyn, Renee, Heather, Jennifer, Bailey, David, Daniel and Austin - for your precious spirits and giving hearts!!



We have an INTERESTING STORY to share about that evening downtown praying for people we met on the street! Dave was leading one small group, which prayed for a woman and her mother who were sitting on a bench. They also prayed for the younger



woman's sister who was paralyzed and unable to walk. A month and a half later, Dave was in the indoor market, and a woman at one of the stalls remarked that she knew Dave because he had prayed for her, her mom and her sister that night near the plaza. And excitedly told Dave that HER SISTER IS NOW WALKING!! We were so touched by the goodness of God and this marvelous answer to prayer!! A friend of this woman's was standing there also, and she asked Dave if we would come over and pray for her brother who is bedridden with a brain condition of some sort after Dee returned from Georgia. We have not had the opportunity to do this yet, but

we have her name and phone number and plan to call her as soon as the next ¡Conéctate! is behind us (this week). Her brother's name is Tomás. *We know he and his sister would greatly appreciate your prayers also.*

Our First ¡Conéctate! – September 12th

The week before this first youth event was the fiercest battle we have been in for a very long time!! For one thing, we had a big storm barreling straight towards us that was supposed to hit Guaymas on the day of the youth event. Many folks here started praying and the storm first turned east and then speeded up so that it hit the coast south of us a day early, and we had blue skies on the day of the youth event! Because of the various other problems we encountered, even on the very day of the event, we started 45 minutes late, and





things didn't get set up quite the way we had hoped. But once we got going, everything went fabulously. We counted about 120 youth who attended, which weren't as many as we'd hoped for, but we felt it was a good start. All the kids who were part of the team did a great job – worship team, lighting, security, MC, those who shared testimonies, computer and projector girls, sound guy, drink sales, and cleanup. A BIG THANKS to Luis Soto, our young friend from New Mexico (originally from Chihuahua), who flew here at his own

expense to share with and minister to the Guaymas young people in this event. His ministry was anointed and helped pave the way for the Holy Spirit to move on hearts in a very special way. Thank you for all your help and for being such a blessing, Luis!!



There was also a young woman who came to cover the event for a local *secular* radio station. She invited the two kids who shared their testimonies to share again on the radio the next day with all of Guaymas! What an awesome opportunity for these kids ... and for the people of Guaymas!



PLEASE PRAY FOR THE NEXT *¡CONÉCTATE!*, WHICH IS [THIS FRIDAY](#), OCTOBER 10TH FROM 7-10PM PACIFIC TIME. We are still facing many obstacles. THANK YOU!!!

Youth Center Update

We've gotten electricity into the coffee bar area now, most of the windows almost completed and ready to install (Dave has been making them in the garage), one functioning bathroom (still one to go) and much of the courtyard area and rooms painted. There is still a BIG job with crumbling walls and the need to plaster a 30' section in the big classroom, and many smaller jobs, however, before the center will be ready to open. *We appreciate your continued prayers for this work – for time, resources, and skilled and reliable help.*



Upcoming Ministry

We'll be heading back to Monterrey, N.L. on the east side of Mexico to be with our friend, Sergio Coronado, and his church in November. He has asked us to lead a couples retreat on Friday and Saturday, and to minister both services on Sunday. It will include some prophetic ministry also. We are looking forward to this, as it has been several years since we were able to be with this wonderful group of people. *We covet your prayers, however, because this will be our first time in Monterrey ministering in Spanish! We will need divine enablement and much grace.☺*



Also, we continue to be a part of the ministerial alliance here in Guaymas and our alliance is hosting another evangelistic campaign the first week of November. *Please pray for this event – that many will be saved, healed and set free!!*

We'll be continuing with the Christmas shoebox project this year, with several stateside churches involved in preparing boxes to give to the poorest of the children in the Guaymas area. Glory Christian Fellowship in Albuquerque is coordinating the project stateside this year. If you are in the NM area, are not with a church who is already participating in this project, and you would like to prepare Christmas shoeboxes to send to Mexico, just let us know and we will send you the guidelines for this year! Later, you can arrange to get the boxes to Glory CF by calling their church office at 505-275-9623. Ask for Joe, Nancy or Lee. [The deadline this year for getting shoeboxes to Glory is November 30th.](#)

A Final Word of Thanks

As always, our hearts are so grateful for your prayers and support! Living on the mission field can be rough at times, not just because of all the things that don't work and the physical hardships, but also because of the intense spiritual battle that we face day in and day out. We simply could not do this without your love, friendship and covering prayers!! Thanks again also to each one of you who has given sacrificially to this ministry, enabling us to do what we do here and touch so many lives. It is appreciated more than you will ever know! May the Lord continue to keep His hand on each one of you, guiding and directing your every step, breathing His breath of life upon you, and revealing Himself to you more completely with each day that goes by. Remember ... you are loved!!

With blessings,  y 



*U.S. tax deductible contributions may be sent to Lifeline Ministries
c/o Stegalls, 2065 Avalon Drive, Las Cruces, NM 88005
US Office Phone: 575.644.5076*

British contributors, please [contact Dave and Dee](#) for details.

*In Mexico: Dave and Dee Alei
Apdo. Postal #815
Admon. Urbana No. 1
Guaymas, Sonora
C.P. 85401 Mexico*

www.lifeline-ministries.net

*Email: lifelinemexico@gmail.com
dndalei@lifeline-ministries.net
Mexico Phone: (+52) 622.221.7641*