Angie Velasco

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Christmas 09 Letter



Week of Prayer at Semilla de Mostaza (Mustard Seed) Cuernavaca Nov. 16-20, 2009

Dear Ministry Partners:

We had a wonderful week of prayer here at Semilla de Mostaza Cuerna from November 16-20, 2009. One of the things we asked the Lord was to use us to proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ.

That week I met one gal I will call Y. Y was introduced to me by C ---one of the faithful ladies that come to my Tuesday small group Bible study. I invited Y to come to our weekly Bible study as she showed a lot of interest in spiritual issues.

To my surprise, she came on November 24. I was surprised because over here many people say, "yes" even though they mean "no" so as not to offend the other person. This is culturally acceptable yet we know that Scriptures teach us that our "yes" should be "yes" and our "no" should be "no". (Matthew 5:37).

That Tuesday, I had planned to start a new series of Bible studies called *In the Garden of the Lord*. These Bible studies are designed as a follow up to our Women's retreat on November 21 where we challenged the women in our small group Bible studies on what it truly means to be a disciple of Jesus Christ. When I saw Y, I knew I had to adjust what I had planned as I was not sure she was a Christian.

I checked if I had enough gospel tracts in my purse and thank God, I found five copies of my favorite Spanish gospel tract called *How to be Sure that you have Eternal Life*. I quickly told the ladies that we would take fifteen minutes to read these gospel tracts as Y is new to our group. Each person read a page and I explained the importance of why Jesus Christ died on the cross --- to take our place. We deserve the punishment of death because we are sinners but instead Jesus died for her sins and my sins, He was crucified, was buried and on the third day rose again. These gospel tracts clearly outline the need to repent from your sins, receive Jesus as your Savior by faith and begin to do the will of God for your life as clearly revealed in Scriptures. When it came to the page asking her if she wants to receive Jesus as her Savior she said, "yes". I told her to repeat the prayer

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after me but she went ahead and prayed inviting Christ in her heart following the prayer on the gospel tract right in front of everyone in our group. Wow!!! I thought... this gal was just a ready harvest!!! Praise God!!! I am also thankful that the ladies in the group watched me share the gospel with her so that they too learned how to share their faith. Y's face beamed with joy when she left that Tuesday evening.

I managed to have enough time to finish all the lesson that I had planned for the evening despite the "Divine Interruption".

Driving home.... I thought about how we had prayed the week before, "Oh God, please use us, use our lives to proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ here in Cuernavaca, in Mexico with our neighbors, with our co-workers, family and friends". I did not know that just a few days later, He would answer that prayer. He used one faithful gal to invite a non-Christian to come to our Bible study, provided me enough Spanish gospel tracts I had purchased earlier this year in Chicago and taught the ladies first hand on how to share their faith by seeing how I shared my faith with this gal. I am just AMAZED!!! I thought of the verse in Ephesians 3:20, "...now to Him who is able to do immeasurably more than we can ask or imagine according to His power that is at work within us." What a joy to be part of what He is doing here for eternity ---- save souls from hell! Now, is this not the reason we celebrate Christmas? Matthew 1:21 says, "...and you are to give Him the name Jesus, because He will save His people from their sins."

Thank you for helping me be here with your faithful love, prayers and financial support.

Lord willing, I will be traveling to Chicago for my yearly medical consultations on Dec. 14. I plan on coming back to Cuernavaca to begin the Winter ministry season on January 16, 2010. I also plan on attending the annual Calvary Chapel Costa Mesa Missions conference in Murrieta Springs, CA on January 4-7.

Have a wonderful Christmas!!!

Sincerely,

Angie Velasco