

February 2008 E-Update  
Angie Velasco

I had a packed January! The first week was spent saying good-bye to many friends, prayer, and financial partners in the Portland-Vancouver area.

The second week I attended the annual Calvary Chapel Missions Conference in Murrieta Springs, CA held on January 7-10. It was a very inspiring and encouraging time getting to know and listening to many missionaries around the world. The highlight for me was meeting an 84 year old missionary to Manila, Philippines named Olga Robertson. She has a death row prison ministry in Manila. She used to give Chapel sermons to the children at Manila Christian Day School. I received my elementary education from this school so when I saw her name tag, I knew who she was. I introduced myself to her as one of those children that used to listen to her chapel sermons. She was almost in tears and gave me a huge bear hug. What an emotional meeting that was for both of us! What a testimony of God's faithfulness to her and to me! At 84 years of age, Olga is returning to the Philippines to continue her prison ministry. She has been a missionary for 50 years. I have a ways to go before I turn 84 years old (if the Lord allows me to live that long) but I wish so much that like Olga I would be faithful to God's call on my life.

Immediately after the conference I flew to Mexico City. My Christian and non-Christian community in Cuernavaca welcomed me warmly and as always with red and pink roses in my apartment.

The third week of January was spent unpacking boxes and organizing my apt. I also started leading the weekly Thursday ladies' Bible study. I am so happy everyone wants to continue studying the book of Philippians. The Lord is also adding new women to the group. The ladies welcomed me by providing chocolate cake, Coke and many spicy appetizers. (Coke, Tequila and beer are the official beverages served here).



Last weekend, I was at our Women leader's retreat. Christa Foote, our speaker, challenged us to put priority on inner beauty rather than outer beauty. We spent a lot of time in prayer alone and with other women. I felt very privileged to pray for an extended time with two women whom I have known since 2005 when I first arrived in Cuernavaca. What a joy to be back, seeing how God has laid the foundations for long term relationships with the women leaders here! Thank you to everyone who prayed for me to drive safely. We all got back to Cuernavaca safely.

Needless to say, beginning February all our ministry activities will be in full swing. I will have every evening from Monday to Thursday filled with leading, hosting or attending a Bible study. I will need your prayers for the Lord to help me have wisdom in balancing time between personal spiritual enrichment, physical food, rest, sleep, recreation and exercise. I pray this will be an illness free year.

You are a vital part of what the Lord is doing here. Thank you for your love, prayers, encouragement and support.