February 2010 Update

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With Cindy Gordon

2010 Tuesday Ladies' Bible study group

Dear Ministry Partners:

My long time friend, Cindy Gordon came to visit me here in Cuernavaca recently. She wrote this letter to let you know what my daily life looks like here.

Cindy writes, "It was a privilege to meet many of the women in Angie's Bible study group. These are real people living out their faith, learning more about Jesus and God's Word. A few don't yet know Jesus but hear about Him every week. It is a blessing that one of the ladies who was discipled by another leader, and was part of Angie's Bible study last year, will be leading her own study group. Another gal is teaching Sunday school and loves it! A third gal is serving as a greeter. Angie does desire to pass on her faith to faithful, available and teachable women. She hopes that these women would then teach others also. Much of her effort and prayers center on these ladies, their relationships with Jesus, and their struggles.

As one might expect, many tasks of daily living take longer than she was used to in the States. This includes taking laundry up to the clotheslines on the roof to dry, or dropping it off at the laundromat. The tap water is not safe to drink, so everyone must daily treat the water with drops or buy bottled water. Fruit and vegetables need to be washed with soap and water and disinfected for fifteen minutes before eating or cooking them. All the cooking utensils and dishes are washed manually. Monthly utility bills must be paid in person or at automatic payment stations (since the mail system is unreliable). Driving is quite the experience - many times the most aggressive driver is the one who goes through the intersections first. Many streets are quite steep going up or down. Prayer for safe travel is needed daily!

Angie desires companionship, as yet there is no single mature Christian woman available here for friendship, recreation and mutual encouragement. The solid Christian women have their own families who need their time. Since Angie is a missionary solely supported by fellow believers, she constantly trusts God to provide for her needs. This trust is fresh each day and has provided Angie with all she needs. I hope you consider supporting her financially, with your prayers and words of encouragement.

Angie continues to be a student of Mexican culture, learning what is and isn't appropriate by local standards in many situations. Generosity is freely given. One friend said she didn't appreciate the American custom of paying only for oneself, and went on to pay for everyone's meal. Angie likes to plan ahead and make arrangements in advance; however many Mexicans don't operate this way so Angie must wait and be patient.

In "winter", Cuernavaca is warm during the day but cool in the evening and early morning. Homes do not have central heating. One challenge is for Angie to stay warm enough in her ground floor apartment with tile floors. She would appreciate any stay-warm tips!

These are some of my overall impressions. Angle is a great tour guide who knows some great restaurants with "ambience"! She would love visitors. For male visitors, she can arrange a place to stay with friends."

Thank you Cindy, for taking the time to come and help my ministry partners understand more of what my life is like here.

As always, thank you for your love, prayers and support.

Happy Valentine's Day!

Sincerely,

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Please send gifts to Crossroads Community Church. Kindly designate gifts for A. Velasco-Mexico. 7708 NE 78th St. Vancouver, WA 98662 Thank you!

Angelina Velasco <u>www.angievelasco.org</u> <u>http://angievelasco.blogspot.com/</u> Facebook: Angelina Velasco Skype: angie.velasco John 15:5 "I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing". Pray for me to daily abide in Christ. Thank you.