

Cuernavaca News

July 1, 2010

Dear Ministry Partners:

What a blessing to have great weather here right now in Cuernavaca! 80's with rain at night so the hills are green and our gardens are filled with all kinds of colorful flowers! What a testimony to our Creator God who made the heavens and the earth!



My neighbor's front yard.

I continue to be amazed at how God demonstrates His power to change lives. Let me tell you the story of one gal I will call Maria. Maria came to Jesus last year three weeks before our Christmas break. I met her during our November prayer week and invited her to my small group Bible study. She came for the first time on November 24, 2009. I was not sure if she was a Christian so I took the first few minutes to share the gospel with her using my favorite gospel tract *How to be Sure you have Eternal Life*. Maria was a ready harvest. I did not even have to ask her if she wants to pray the sinner's prayer. When we came to the page on the sinner's prayer, she took the initiative to pray in front of everyone saying, "I would like to pray this prayer" and started praying out loud in front of everyone. She came for two more Tuesdays and attended the Christmas party I hosted for all the ladies that have been coming to the Bible study from September 2009-December 2009.

Maria came faithfully from January to June. She is going through a very difficult custody battle of her three girls with her ex-partner. If you meet her, you would not imagine all the battles she is facing as she has joy in the midst of her work difficulties, lawyer's appointments, court meetings and the pain of not having her three girls all the time. This ministry season we have been studying on how to have spiritual fruit in our lives. It is obvious Maria has the spiritual fruit of joy because she met Jesus last November and has been growing steadily since then. For the last six months, she has brought a total of six contacts to our Bible study. She would bring her girls on the days she has them. She would bring them to my apartment when we have prayer meetings and our small group ended up sharing the gospel to her two little girls, 11 year old (y.o.) and six y.o. Her face beamed with joy seeing her girls pray and listen attentively to Bible stories.

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Thank you!

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Jan. to June 2010 Bible study group

She brought her co-worker I will call Christy. Christy prayed to receive the Lord the first time she came and came to our prayer meeting in my apartment.

The next time, Maria brought her older daughter, Ale, her secretary, Marta, and a good friend of hers, Barbara. Amazing!!! (I changed the names to protect their privacy).

How could one gal going through so much pain beam with joy and keep bringing new people to our weekly Bible study group!!! I have only one answer: God's power to change broken lives through His written Word! What a joy to serve HIM knowing He is working out His purposes in Maria's life using all her difficult circumstances!

I had dinner with Maria and two other faithful gals last Wednesday after our evening service. We were at the Taquería (restaurants that serve tacos) up to 11 p.m. Our youth pastor had just shared on what the New Jerusalem would look like using the passage on Revelation 21. I cannot help but be in awe when Maria said, "How exciting! When we get to the New Jerusalem, we will meet Abraham, David, Moses and all these heroes of faith we have been studying!" What a joy for me to see one faithful gal amidst all kinds of difficulties looking forward with eyes focused not on her earthly circumstances but on our real home --- heaven!!! We are just passing through here. Praise God for the power of His Word! Praise God for Maria's spiritual growth in the last six months! Praise God for enabling me to hang in here in the midst of all forms of spiritual attacks!

I will not have the opportunity to disciple Maria without your prayers, financial support and encouraging words.

Thank you for your faithful partnership with me here in Mexico. How many more Maria's are out there, ready for the gospel if someone would just share the good news with them?

Sincerely,

Angie Velasco

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