



Derm and Viola Westcott

Serving with Manos Extendidas Honduras
& the International Alliance for Missions, Inc.



NEWSLETTER

westcott@cablecolor.hn

MARCH-APRIL HAPPENINGS – 2007

c/o Manos Extendidas

Apdo Postal 20397

Tegucigalpa, M.D.C., Honduras

Here's someone else's thought... The Bible has a lot to say about dreams, visions, hopes, and desires. It's filled with accounts of men and women who allowed God to paint dreams on the canvases of their hearts. Dreams are the wellspring of passion. They give us direction and point us to lofty heights. They are capable of helping us break through our self-imposed limitations. God-given dreams are the seeds of greatness. *Source: Winner's Way Broadcast produced by Mac Hammond Ministries*



Challenged to make a decision... Recently I had an opportunity to speak to about 20 inmates at the local detention center about my life and where I came from concerning my relationship with the Lord. Prior to my speaking, others did the same. Each time the boys were challenged to make a decision and forced to take a look at their own lives. When we share a piece of our lives with others, we do so hoping that something we say will strike a chord and help them realize there is hope in the midst of their situation...or nightmare, that they are living. Funny thing, while I was listening to the others speak, there sat beside me a young fellow about 16 years old, primarily interested in taking my newly purchased biker sunglasses that sat so coolly on top of my head. He asked to just try them on...and then a little later, he was more persistent. My reply...not a chance there buddy; no one touches the glasses. I was trying to be firm and cool at the same time. Only later did I discover that this young fellow had killed 12 people before he had reached the age of 13 and he was serving a life sentence. Had I known that...ah, I don't think so!



Anyway, back to my talk with the boys. I was able to somewhat identify with these guys. I too served time on three different occasions during my early years, reform school being one of those times when I was 15 years old. Having that kind of insight when you speak to someone can get you their attention and respect. It did not matter the severity of the crime but the fact that you know what it is like to lose control of your life and for your life to be totally in the hands of the law. No freedom. It's not a nice feeling. However I was able to tell them that you can experience freedom, not from the prison walls but an inner freedom that gives you peace and a hope that ones future can be trusted in the hands of the Lord. After sharing this with them, I sensed that they needed to be further challenged, so I strongly put it out there that it takes a lot of guts to join Heaven's Gang. It takes kneeling down before the Lord in front of the other prisoners and proclaiming that they are going to make Jesus their gang leader. The response was passionate...eight of these guys rushed to the floor on bended knee as a local Honduran prayed with them in their own language. They gave their lives to Christ. Their journey has just begun and a Dream for their lives has potential to be birthed. Destiny can be achieved in each of those lives. Now comes the hard part...sticking to it. The doors of opportunity have been opened for Manos Extendidas to disciple these young men through the caring, fatherly love of Alvin Anderson. Men from Manos also visit the detention center weekly providing leadership and bible study. Please pray that these eight boys keep to their word and thirst for more of who they are in Christ as others share in their lives the experience of living for the Lord.



One slow, patient, step at a time... I think I have come a long way from my western cultural mindset that the service industry owes me something...especially when it comes to being punctual and delivering product and services rapido... pronto (promptly, quickly, on time)! Living in Honduras, a developing country, has taught me many things. What's your hurry? You aren't going anywhere! First relationship, then business. And it can always be done tomorrow. So why do something today when

you can put it off till tomorrow. ARRR ☺

I have to laugh when I think of some of you readers that would cringe at the thought of conducting business under these conditions. In particular, someone such as Janet K. I hear ya! I have to say it still sometimes is a stretch for me. I have been waiting for the completion of the wall around our Feeding Center #1 for more than a year now. But things just don't run as smoothly here as we would like. It truly is relationship building that needs our attention here. I think the idea is that if we have good relationships with those that affect our lives, we can expect then to achieve better results in our dealings. I think that is the idea. I guess I am still working this out. Now you know what to pray for...me!



Nice to be a blessing ...

Depending on the numbers on our visiting mission teams, we employ Honduran ladies to work for us. We have two who work full time and two others who work part time. They are a blessing to us all as they work hard to take good care of our teams...preparing meals, doing laundry, cleaning rooms, etc. They are grateful to the Lord for the employment that helps them take care of their families' needs; and they are also grateful for the people who come to their country to help their people. For me, it is a great joy to prepare their pay and give it to them for their labors, knowing how much each one of them appreciates it.

This is Nubia who has been with us since July 1, 2004.

Prayer & Praise Reports

- Pray for continued growth of Manos de Café and Coffee Online.
- Pray that more churches and organizations would catch the vision for Los Ninos Café's whereby funds are raised for missions through the sale of coffee to parishioners and supporters.
- Pray for more sponsors for the little ones at our two Daycare Programs and thanksgiving for our new sponsors. We now have 65 children sponsored. Praise the Lord.
- Pray for our upcoming mission teams that the Lord's agenda would be realized in each life. Pray also for their protection and health. We have a team from London, ON arriving on the 30th of April.
- Praise and thanksgiving to the Lord in faith that all our needs will continue to be met according to His riches in glory even as our expenses have increased this year, **i.e.** unexpected car maintenance and travel to US/Canada this summer.
- **As always, our heart is filled with praise and thanksgiving for all who partner with us day by day with your prayers, finances, words of encouragement, etc. God bless you each and everyone. We could not do it without each one of you.**