

Oaxaca Dockters



ENCOURAGEMENT: ENOUGH TO GO AROUND

January 2009

Gracias a Dios...



Hermacinda sitting on her porch with her two daughters.

“Gracias a Dios... Si, tengo energia... la cirugia fue bien.” (Thanks be to God...Yes, I have energy...the surgery went well...)

These were Hermacinda’s words mixed in amongst her smiles. Last year she completed her chemotherapy and ra-

diation treatments. In Oct. she had a mastectomy. She had trouble in Nov. with an infection but today she was much better, in fact, she was “all smiles.” She was so thankful to God for her health and to our church in California, along with some teacher friends, who had provided for her transportation needs to and from her medical treatments.

We were encouraged by her joy and gratitude. Hermacinda’s home is very humble. It’s a one room concrete structure. She has so little

yet she is so thankful for what she does have and for the gift of prayers and concern for her health and well-being.

Please pray for Hermacinda’s continued health and the financial needs of her family.

Most of all, love each other as if your life depended on it. Love makes up for practically anything. Be quick to give a meal to the hungry, a bed to the homeless— cheerfully. Be generous with the different things that God gave you passing them around so all get in on it: if words, let it be God’s words, if help, let it be God’s hardy help. (1 Peter 4:8– 11, The Message)

Mas que Vencedoras (More than Victors)

Women’s micro-lending banks are impacting poor communities around the world. They provide women with economic support in areas where they traditionally do not qualify for any type of credit.

We visited one such bank in Tehuantepec, Oaxaca, about 4 1/2 hours south of where we live. This



‘community bank’ has 30+ members. It is just under 4 years old and is going strong!

When the bank began, the women themselves drew up their own rules:

- You must be at least 18 yrs. old

- You must attend weekly meetings

- You can only be up to 10 min, late without having to pay a fine of \$10 pesos.

- Minimum repayment each week is \$30 pesos.

These are just a few of

Prayer and Praise

- WE ARE LITTLE PEOPLE IN THE HANDS OF A BIG GOD!
- OPEN EARS, EYES AND HEARTS TO SEE WHAT GOD IS ALREADY DOING AND CONTINUE TO ENCOURAGE HIS WORK
- BE ABLE TO FINE TUNE OUR ‘JOB DESCRIPTION’
- TO FIND LOCAL LANGUAGE TUTORS
- FOR QUICK PROCESSING OF NEW VISAS

These stories of success can be replicated with your continued encouragement. For more information go to:

YouTube: Fuentes Libres.
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vZLOLL41x6A>

YouTube: Seeds of Health -VBS offering project
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Rxke91vUBU8&feature=related>

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With capital earned through a small business one woman bought a moto-taxi which she rents out to a driver who pays her a daily fee.

Mas que Vencedoras (continued)

the rules, the list was huge. But these women are VERY serious about their success. (Internationally women's micro-banking enterprises have almost a 98% success rate.)

Some of these women have started small businesses others are just "ahorradoras" (savers).

At the end of the meeting they encouraged each other, and us, with their

stories. One woman has saved \$47,000 pesos (about \$3,500 dollars). Another woman who sold cheese had made enough money to also buy a moto-taxi which she rents out to a driver who pays her a daily fee.



This income is providing stability for families who have not other economic support and who would otherwise always be on the edge of crisis.

Pray for additional operating finances for Fuentes Libres, the women's micro-banking ministry.

MATTHEW 25:38-40

...I was in prison and you came to me... Whenever you did [this] to someone who was overlooked and ignored, that was me- you did it to me.

HEBREWS 13:3

Regard those who are in prison as if you were in prison with them and those who are mistreated as if you yourselves were suffering.



"Tehuana" (a Tehuantepec woman) in traditional dress at the entrance to the market area.

8 yrs, 4 mo. and 1 yr to go! NO PICTURES ALLOWED

We went to the State/ Federal prison this morning. We passed through 3 sets of locked gates, and for whatever reason were not searched today. We were there with 2 other people. Isai, a young Oaxacan man being trained by Semillas de Salud, will be going to the prison each Sat. morning to do hypertension and glucose testing on the prisoners; as well as encouraging them that they are not forgotten by God, nor by his church.

Once inside, we visited with Pastor David. David has

been in jail for 8 years and 4 months, he'll probably get out in about 1 year. He shared about the prisoners' excitement of gathering in the small church every afternoon. Bruce noticed that the guitar was missing a few strings and asked about getting some replacements. David was grateful. He gave us a tour of the facilities. We saw beautiful hammocks being hand woven on looms and a wood mill where prisoners milled logs and ended with beautifully crafted tables and chairs. We were there to check on David's

needs and those of his church and to encourage him, but what happened was that he encouraged us!

It was not a pretty place and no one wants to be there; visiting was a bit uncomfortable but it was clear that God was there, encouraging others and being encouraged himself.

Pray for Isai's new ministry in the jail.

Pray for the next inmate who will take over after David is released.

Thank you for your continued support and ENCOURAGEMENT on our behalf. If you would like information about how to receive a regular update or about how you can support us financially please contact us at Bjkdockter@gmail.com for more information.

All financial gifts are tax deductible. Please make checks payable to the "Evangelical Covenant Church" and include our name on the memo line.

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