



A.K.A.
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I found myself surrounded in a sea of joy on January 14th in our Mezcales Center as we celebrated 'The Day of the Kings'. The children expressed much love and gratitude for the Shoebox gifts from Samaritan's purse. This year not only are we reaching hundreds of children in Puerto Vallarta and surrounding areas, we also extended our outreach to include 65 children in a remote mountain village above Talpa several hours away. It is fitting that children in Mexico receive gifts in a shoebox in January. Why?

In Mexico Jesus' birthday is traditionally celebrated on January 6th, and called 'El Dia de los Reyes Magos' (The Day of the Magi Kings). On the night before, children set their shoes out hoping that the three magi will visit their home with gifts stuffed in and around the shoes. They also drink hot chocolate flavored with vanilla and cinnamon and eat a sweetbread wreath cake which represents a kings crown decorated with pieces of dried oranges, limes, nuts, figs and cherries for the jewels in the crown. Hidden in the cake is a little baby Jesus doll representing the New Born King Jesus hiding from King Herod. Whoever gets the slice of cake with the doll has to throw a tamale party at their home to celebrate when Jesus was presented in the temple as a baby. Our cultures and customs maybe be different, but what a way to celebrate Jesus our Savior coming into the world!

This year we received approximately 500 Samaritan Purse Shoeboxes and are now actively engaged in a 12 week discipleship program called the Great Adventure. 500 children will learn about their need for a savior and how to develop a personal relationship with him. At the end of the study they will have a graduation ceremony and receive a diploma and an illustrated New Testament. I am forever grateful to those of you who support our missionary efforts allowing us to participate in bringing children and their families into Christ's Kingdom.

Together we are impacting the nations and changing children's lives!

Lee & Carol

Shoebox Blessings...



SAY A PRAYER:

1. Pray for the strengthening of our Vida churches and children's ministries in Haiti, the Dominican Republic and Mexico.
2. Pray for protection, provision, and good health as we continue to co-labor with you in Christ in the expansion of His Kingdom.
3. Pray for our '2020 VISION', that we break ground and begin to build the Vida Children's Centers and Missions in Pedernales, Dominican Republic and Anse-A-Pitre, Haiti. We need approximately \$18K to lay the foundations and get the project started.



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Shoebox Blessings

Mezcales, Mexico



Non-Profit Org.
 U.S. Postage
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 Humble, TX
 Permit # 163

Address Service Requested

PO BOX 3069
 HUMBLE, TX 77347

