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Lee preaching in the church of Pastor Luis Velazquez

You may be a Missionary if... you attend a Church Leadership Conference and sleep on a ranch with the animals instead of at the Ramada Inn with the other foreigners.

You may be a missionary if... You get off the plane and rush to eat Goat meat in a spicy tomato broth, otherwise known as "Birria de Chivo".

You may be a Missionary if... you carry your wallet in your front pocket and a small roll of toilet paper in your back pocket.

I landed down in the Guadalajara airport & Tino Gutierrez picked me up. What a joy to be back with such a good friend and fellow missionary. It was lunch time and we headed for real Mexican food, Birra de Chivo. We then went to meet Pastor Jorge Gutierrez in St. Augustine, outside of Guadalajara. This is a drug controlled, violence filled environment where the presence of the Gospel is making a difference. As Tino and I ministered to the Pastor, I felt the same anointing come over me as when we ministered together almost two decades ago.

The next stop on this ministry trip was Tabachines with Pastor Juan and Gloria Acosta. God did things here 18 years ago that are still fresh in our hearts, and have been passed on down through the years. The church was then people of middle age and seniors. Today it is predominately folks in their twenties. How awesome to see young people hungry for Christ. I prayed over one young lady and told her that I could see that God was going to use her life to bring healing to others. I also said it is not clear to me in what way, emotionally or physically, But I told her that the Lord showed me a needle full of medicine, bringing healing. She told me that she had the desire to study and become a nurse, and that now, she would follow through with those plans. As Tino and I shared the word of the Lord we saw many tears and confirmations. Pastor Juan is very interested in once again hosting our Bible School in his church.

Then, we went back to Jocotepec, my beloved home for four of my six years in Mexico. Joco is a rustic Mexican town over looking Lake



Luis Velazquez, Yours Truly, & Eduardo Enriquez: Former Vida Students now Pastors.

Chapala with a picturesque Plaza and majestic mountains draping in the background. I was surprised as the other missionaries, Tino Gutierrez and Greg Nemer introduced me to different Pastors in the area. They introduced me as the first missionary to move there, and that's why they and other missionaries came to that town. They said that because of that, today there are three Churches in Jocotepec that would not be there otherwise.

I was taken back at the concept each time they introduced me. I never imagined the influence we might have by simply being obedient to go. Carol and I

never planted a church in Joco, but spent our time fighting the mafia and beginning the Video Bible School. Isn't God amazing! Last but not least, Tino and I were off to Ocotlan. This is the city to the east of Lake Chapala, where we started our first Bible School in 1991. Would you believe that while we were there, we encountered 3 of our first students? One of whom I had the privilege to minister in his church, "Iglesia Centro De La Familia Cristiana De Ocotlan", Pastored by Luis Velasquez. He is from the Indian tribe "Tochan", which speaks Nahuatl. Another former student I visited with is Eduardo Enriquez who has planted churches in several cities throughout Mexico and is now back serving in his hometown. It's a blessing to go back and see the fruit of seed that was sown in hard times. God Bless all of you who have sown and are sowing into this ministry. We will never know the full impact of your sacrificial gifts and prayers this side of Glory.

Together We Touch the World!

Tino & Carol



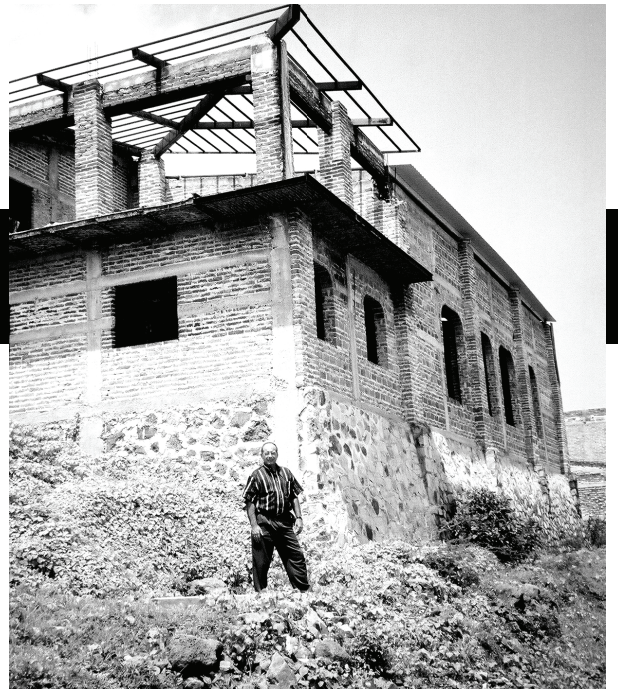
Ministering to the youth in Pastor Juan Acosta's church, Tabachines, Mex.

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Others Would Follow...

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