



Health Fairs in and around Loreto, B.C.S.

Bringing more than physical blessings...

REPORT FOR

WEEKENDER TEAM – May 21-25, 2015



It's unexplainable how much 'at home I feel' here in this prison. I love coming here trying to encourage these men.

What can we do for these men? What can we say when the government has regulations that we must adhere to? We are allowed more freedom when talking with each inmate privately - during those times we do our best to share the love of Jesus, and the message of salvation with those who have not accepted Christ as Savior. And with those who have made a decision for Christ, we give encouragement...

At the end of the 3 days of our Health Fairs, on Sunday, we're permitted to have a meeting with all of the prisoners - albeit in 3 groups because of the large number of inmates that are now here. (This prison while built for 105 men, today has 274 men here. Which means a sleeping room that was built for 4 men now houses 12...) Talk about overcrowding!

During these 3 meetings we are allowed to give 'a short talk of encouragement' to the men, and to then give out the things we have brought for them all - which are plastic bags containing a wash cloth, a large bar of soap, a large bottle of shampoo, a tooth brush, a large tube of toothpaste, a roll of dental floss, a blank notebook, a pen, a Gospel of John, an a booklet entitled, 'The Story of Jesus'. We also give them the option to pick up a Bible if they would like one...

We are not allowed to 'preach' during these 3 meetings because the inmates are required to attend - their attendance is not voluntary. **Praise the Lord!** So, what can we talk to the men about during this 'message of encouragement'...? (NB: We are allowed to 'preach' at designated church service times - because attendance to these services is voluntary.)

This is what I've done: Last time I spoke on 'evolution' and why this teaching should not be trusted, because of the lack of evidence to support it. "On the other side", I said, "there's a lot of evidence to support 'creation' so it's a very likely true we'll all face God at the end of our lives; agreed? So pick up a Bible and read it yourself... Then draw your own conclusion without feeling you're under any pressure."

This time I decided to tell the men a story - fashioning it after Matthew 13:10-17. The story I told them was fictional,

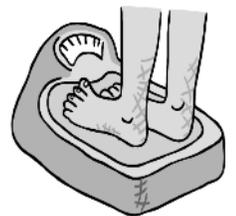
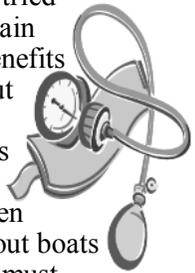
but there was truth that could be found in the story, and they could put themselves in the story if they understood it. The essence of the story was this: If you wanted to get to Cancun from Cabo you'd need to take a bus, or a boat, or a plane or a combination of these. The problems are that sometimes buses breakdown, boats sink, and planes crash - so they are not reliable! But in my story there's a super-train that is reliable, but tickets cannot be purchased..., and what would it be like on the train? Well one could go down to the station and hang on to the side of the train and look in as it travels down the tracks - and some people have tried this, but they have gotten knocked off when the train came to a tunnel. So it's evident, to receive the benefits of the super-train, one must get on/in the train! But people are still hesitant because they are not sure what it's like on the train. So they ask their friends or others - but they have gotten their information from the newspapers and TV - and that info is often incorrect, (in fact they usually only tell stories about boats that sank or planes that have crashed...) No! One must have faith, and just get on the train! The good news is: today in Santa Rosalia there's someone giving out free tickets for the super-train. And he says, it's not dependent upon how good or bad you've been...

Then I explained, the real story is in 'the Book'...

The story was confusing for some of the men and some of the guards, but for others - they understood it! In fact 2 men picked up Bibles after the story saying they are looking forward to seeing us in 'Cancun'. About 150 men picked up Bibles that day. **Praise the Lord!**

So the Gospel can be shared even when there may be regulations that curtail our freedom. And while the men would've closed their ears to 'preaching' they'll remember this story - so pray for them as they do...

Thank you so much again for your support and for your prayers - for helping to make all of this happen. We thank you & praise the Lord for your partnership!



STATISTICS FOR 3 HEALTH FAIR DAYS

Friday, Saturday & Sunday, May 22-23-24, 2015

Location: State 'Medium Security' Prison in Santa Rosalia - Pastor Omar

Statistics: Total in attendance 274

People treated:

- Dentists... 37
- Doctors... 43
- Glasses... 78
- Prayed to receive Christ... 3+?



A ministry of Mexican Medical Ministries and Healing & Hope International, in cooperation with national evangelical Churches in B.C.S., Mexico

Send donations to support this ministry to...

Mexican Medical Ministries (USA)

7850 Lester Avenue, Lemon Grove, CA, USA 91945

* Please include a note stating: "to support Don & Lorraine Karsgaard"

CHIMP - Charities Impact Foundation (Canada)

Ste. 1250 - 1500 W. Georgia St., Vancouver, BC, Canada V6G 2Z6

* Please include a note stating: "for Don & Lorraine Karsgaard Giving Group"

In Mexico this is an approved and recognized ministry of 'El Curativo y Esperanza, A.C.' - Clave del R.F.C. #CES091215879

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Here we are again in the State Prison in Santa Rosalía, and *'it feels good to be back home'* - well you know what I mean...



Susanna registers each inmate and guard, and Lorraine records each one's height and weight - both with welcoming smiles...



Ruth and Jan record each one's blood pressure and blood sugar readings - also with smiles and words of encouragement to the men...

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We are very pleased that Dr. Avila and his wife/nurse, Soledad are now able to come regularly on our Teams - a great addition...!



Steve Crews has also joined our Teams - as driver of the Mex.Med. truck, to pull our dental trailer wherever we take our Teams...



Men are seen here waiting to have some much needed dental work done by Dentista Yxchel and her Assistant Gloria...

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Physical help of this kind is needed, so we come...



Spiritual counsel and prayer is also needed, and it's also appreciated...



The men are waiting outside their dining room - where we had our three meetings, and gave them the things we brought for them...



Men in prison are treated by society and government to be least deserving of all, so they get very little. Some of the men will have to make the soap, shampoo and toothpaste we gave them, last until we return - because they only receive these kinds of things from relatives, friends, and us. And as many of the men do not have family or friends to visit them, so they'll wait and look forward to when we will return...

There is an evangelical church of inmates inside this prison - the pastor is appointed among the inmates as being the most spiritually mature person among them. Pastor Omar has a very difficult time as you can imagine - trying to give good counsel and advice to men who have many problems. It's not just Bible teaching he does in their 'daily church services'... So please pray for Omar and the other 30+ Christian men in this prison...

Thank you so much again for your prayers and support for this wonderful ministry, because many people are being blessed physically and spiritually as a result. Thank you!