



# Mission Focus

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## Holy Permission

The leadership at Camp Vergel (the largest migrant camp in the San Quintin Valley) changed this year, and at the beginning of the summer we found ourselves without permission to enter. This meant that we would not be able to go into the camp to share the love of Jesus through the many types of ministries we offer during the year—film, health fairs, dentistry, VBS, playtime, prayer, and more.

So we began to pray... God moved His hand in some way that we still don't understand and we have been able to continue with our holy permission to enter.

Our last visit to Camp Vergel this year was to do film ministry in November. We had been discouraged by both the social worker and the guard; they insisted that everyone would be in bed when we arrived at 6pm.

When we arrived it did seem like a ghost town. There was no one to be found as we entered the camp and all the dwellings seemed vacant. We wondered if we should just leave and not set the film up, but Pastor Rafa said, "Well, we are here and if even one person comes for Jesus it will all be worth it." So the guys set up the equipment while some of us set out to walk through the camp to invite people.

Lo and behold, as we entered the back of the camp we found lots of people out and about, doing laundry and kids playing.

We met one young man that night who is a Christian. He had fallen away and the Lord had been wooing him back over the previous several days. He felt that our presence there was a gift from God for him. Pastor Rafa was able to pray with him and give him a Bible.

After the film was over, Pastor shared the gospel through the sound system so people in the back of the camp could hear. He gave a call to any that were laying upon their beds to pray with him. In the spirit, I sensed some who were sick being healed, some experiencing forgiveness for the first time and the joy and freedom that comes from forgiveness, and some (at least one) praying to receive Christ. I sensed that we would not meet them until we are in heaven. I believe there was a great harvest that night!

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Film ministry in CampVergel.



## While on the Lord's Business...

In October, I spent the day with two beautiful women of faith, Tere and Leti. Our work for the day was to use donation money to purchase and deliver food and supplies to a senior home and to 3 different families.

While we were at the senior home, I was able to spend some time with a man named Joel. He likes to sit in the same spot outside on the porch listening to his radio. He had a stroke some time ago which affected his speech and the left side of his body. Normally, he greets me with a smile but doesn't try to interact much. He usually appears dejected and downcast due to his disability.

On this visit, he just opened up and talked to me. Though his speech was still very slurred, I was so happy to see him pressing into using those speaking muscles. And I could understand some of what he was saying. I understood that he is a believer and knows that God is with him. His desire is to be able to walk again. I could sense Jesus' desire to heal him. Joel showed me the increased movement in his left arm and leg. He told me that each morning he spends time practicing walking. It must take great courage for a once strong man to accept where he is and use what he *does* have. I was overjoyed at this change in him. There is something powerful that happens when we thank God for our afflictions. In my mind's eye, I could see Joel fully healed and well, walking around the facility and blessing the other residents that live there. It was along these lines that we prayed together.

How hard it must be to have the courage to keep speaking even when we are very hard to understand, to keep pressing into using muscles that take so much effort for even the smallest movement. Yet, we get good at what we practice!



Car full of gifts for delivery.

## Harvest

San Quintín Valley is a place where much food is grown. There is a great harvest here. Indigenous people come from 2000 miles away to work the fields and help with the harvest. What they don't realize when they come is that God is here waiting to harvest them and bring their hearts and lives into His Kingdom!



## Heaven Increase

November 15, 2017 is now an important date. Nineteen kids in San Francisco village received Jesus into their hearts on this day. What beautiful moments those were!!!

The kids in SF are usually so stoic, so reserved when it comes to worship, but as we did vacation Bible school there that week, each day I saw them open up more and join in to the motions and singing. On our 3rd day there, Pastor Rafa shared the gospel. José Angel was sitting in his seat as the invitation came and his arm shot up and he shouted “Yo quiero recibir a Jesús!” (I want to receive Jesus!) Wow, was that beautiful! Then other hands shot up in excitement and 19 beautiful little hearts came forward.”

Before Pastor gave the invitation, as he shared the gospel, many of the kids became restless. Distraction seemed to fill the atmosphere. I sensed the enemy was not happy about the coming invitation. As those 19 kids gathered around Pastor and prayed to receive Jesus, a quiet fell over the room. As they finished, there was such a peace that filled the atmosphere. The open heaven could be felt. I thank the Lord for allowing me to witness this beautiful moment in time where the trajectory of nineteen lives were realigned to Him!!!

On our last day together, we played, sang, danced, made tambourines, shared a meal, listened to the story of Jesus’ resurrection, and watched a film about forgiveness and why it is so important.

Normally in parting, I can still feel a great sense of need from the kids but, as the team said their goodbyes I became aware that this time, I saw them content from being loved and cared for. Now many of them had Jesus living inside their hearts. This was displayed by their changed countenances. Their faces wore smiles and hugs were freely given. My heart is full!





# Cuba

I had the honor and privilege of going to Cuba for 10 days this December on a mission trip with Mexican Medical Ministries. We were a team of 9 who partnered with a Cuban church in Havana to bring hope and healing to the lives of people in their community. We saw God answer so many prayers— smooth passage through customs and immigration, health, team unity, fruitful ministry and great fellowship, to name a few!

Cuba has many statues honoring men. The largest statue that I saw among them was one of Jesus. This was strange to see in an atheistic country. It had been erected in 1958. With the revolution in 1959, the new leaders wanted to tear it down, but were afraid it would anger too many people and so left it. The statue of Jesus was standing on a high hill above their beloved harbor, at the heart of Havana. Across the water there is a castle with guns that was built to protect the harbor. To begin our service in Cuba, we gathered there under Jesus to pray and worship together. Words were given that wherever our leader, Amy, placed the sole of her foot that God was proclaiming that place for the Kingdom of Heaven. We walked almost everywhere we went and we were sure to take a different street each time we could, increasing the territory that we were claiming for Christ.

The streets of Havana are narrow and cobbled-stone. There is never quiet in the city. Often the sound of honking horns can be heard, but the sound which is constant is that of human voices.

We had so many amazing encounters with people, both planned and unplanned. We held church in people's homes and prayed for healing on the streets. We—Cubans, Mexicans, and Americans—gathered together in a room on the 8th floor of an apartment building designed by the Russians where we worshiped Jesus together and prayed for each other. Powerful!

I come home changed and grown by the experience. I'm reminded of Joshua and Caleb that got to take a peek at what God is about to do and come home and give a report. Only everyone of us on the team return with a good report. God is surely in that place.

I plan to put together a 'Cuba Report' to share through stories some of what I saw God doing in Cuba. I hope to release this in January.

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*I want to say a huge THANK YOU to each of you for your prayers and support. God is using your faithful prayers and support in a great way. There is fruit that is abounding to your account. I praise God for each of you and keep you in prayer. Happy New Year!*

Bringing hope and healing to the nations.