God is calling us to Mexico!

We are writing to share with you some exciting news. Erin and I have been accepted to serve as fulltime missionaries with Mexican Medical Ministries (MMM). Our church has said, "We will send you." So we have begun our preparations to go!

Our ministry will be throughout Baja California and in the southern state of Chiapas. We will be assisting fellow missionaries in their efforts to bring healing and hope to the people of Mexico by participating in health fairs, disaster relief, and evangelistic outreaches. For the past 50 years MMM has been dedicated to providing low or no-cost health care to the people in these areas of Mexico. Today, they are still active, partnering with churches, clinics and hospitals; providing medical services and working with local churches to present Jesus Christ as Savior to their neighbors.

Almost two years ago God began to stir in our hearts to serve with MMM. In September 2016 during a morning devotional at Silver Spur's men's retreat, the Lord said "Go!" I want you to go and serve with Mexican Medical.

We began talking with Steve Crews, president of Mexican Medical, about opportunities for service. We have known Steve and his wife, Jan, for several years because of their relationship with Silver Spur Camp (where Erin works). He invited us to join one of their teams heading to La Purisima for a mission trip led by the Avila family, missionaries with MMM from Cabo. On this trip, we partnered with a local pastor who has been traveling monthly to this remote area eight hours north of Cabo for the last six years.

We were blessed by the many opportunities God brought our way to serve the people in those communities — dental care, reading glasses and prayer were just some of the ways we were able to minister.

So we went...was that it? Was a shortterm trip the "Go" we had heard from God? Or was there more God had planned for us with Mexican Medical?





We prayed for confirmation, for God to clearly speak to us through His word. The next day, Wayne's devotional bible reading was in Genesis 12:1-9, where Abram left his homeland with his wife and nephew and traveled into Canaan. God didn't offer much information to Abram concerning the destination, not even an indication of how long it would take to get there. God simply gave the instruction to "Go". The word was actually in quotes! Hebrews 11:8 says that "By faith Abraham, when he was called, obeyed." During this whole time Erin was reading through the Old Testament and the recurring theme was obedience. We had asked God to speak clearly and He had. How could we say anything but yes?

God has reassured and reaffirmed to both of us through Scripture, through our church, and through family and friends that He is calling us to "Go!"

2017 ended with a wonderful blessing from our church family. December 31st was our commissioning service with Tuolumne Community Baptist Church. We've been part of the church fellowship since our first year in Tuolumne, CA and only God knew that they would be sending us to the mission field 10 years later! We are so thankful to serve as an extension of our church family as we work with MMM.

Part of our preparation to "Go" is developing a firm foundation of monthly support. Our approved budget of \$4,800 per month includes provisions for taxes, insurances, housing, utilities, as well as ministry and travel expenses. We believe this is possible with a team of 60, churches and individuals, committing to partner with us at \$40 to \$200 per month.

100% of your gift goes directly to supporting us.

We are grateful for the partnerships God has provided already; people that will faithfully pray for us and support us financially. We have seen Him working in every step of this journey with us. We are amazed how He has already provided for 60% of our needed monthly support! Our goal is to be able to start language school at the end of August fully funded.

Will you pray about joining our financial support team with either a one-time gift or regular monthly support? If the Lord leads you to partner with us in this ministry, please send donations to: Mexican Medical Ministries, 7850 Lester Ave, Lemon Grove, CA 91945. Please include a note designating your gift to "Wayne & Erin Hilliker".

On the Sunday of our commissioning service we sang the hymn "Trust and Obey."

"What He says we will do, where He sends we will go; Never fear, only trust and obey."

It is a blessing and a privilege to be able to go in obedience and join in the work that God is already doing through Mexican Medical. Get to know more about MMM and its missionaries (including us!) online at <u>www.mexicanmedical.com</u>.

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