



Local Church Growing

When we returned from nearly two months traveling the western states we were thrilled to find the church in San Vicente expanding their ministry. After spending years mentoring the people it is awesome to see them take what they have learned and begin putting that knowledge into action.

For many years they rejected the idea of small groups with the purpose of making disciples. That means teaching them the Bible and then to have those who are learning to begin teaching someone else. This method not only helps people grow but has them teach others it reinforces what they learn and they will become stronger Christians themselves.

What we found upon returning to San Vicente is that the church has three new small groups and men from the church are leading these groups. How exciting to see men who have been in our training classes the past several years finally putting that knowledge into practice.

The San Vicente church planted a church a couple of years ago and is sponsoring that new church themselves. Now they are partnering with some other like minded churches and have planted another church in just the past couple of months.

Part of the excitement for Lynne and I is that all of this is totally the Mexican people and there is no money or people from the USA providing anything but encouragement. We always believed that they were capable of doing this but they lacked the confidence. When churches and people realize they can grow their ministry without outside funds and leadership they get excited.

Study Books

We are so excited because **Twin Rivers Baptist church of Springfield, Oregon**, has purchased several sets of study books for both the Angels and some pastor friends. The sets include a Commentary, Concordance, and a Bible Dictionary.

Thank you Twin Rivers Baptist!

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Angels

Alba is preparing the Angels for another missions trip to central Mexico (State of Nayarit) the first two weeks of January. This annual outreach is a big part of the San Vicente outreach and has seen some positive results. When Mexicans reach out and teach other Mexicans what they have and are learning it is a very positive and exciting thing to see.

Lynne and I were a part of these trips for several years but stopped for several reasons. Part of the reason was so they would make the ministry their own. After we made the decision to back totally out of the mission trips, Dave had health problems and we were not able to join them.

Since we stepped out of that ministry the Mexicans have expanded the scope of their outreach. Several of the churches they have worked with on their mission trips have taken what the San Vicente church has taught them and expanded their ministries.

Again it is exciting to see ministry expand in such positive ways after all the years of endeavoring to give them the encouragement and training needed to expand their ministry. Now they are following the model we tried to teach them, which is exactly the model given to us in the New Testament by both Jesus and Paul.

One of the young men who has been an Angel came to Pastor a couple of weeks ago and asked if he could still be an Angel. (He graduated high school in June) Pastor wisely said, YES, of course. Now you are a leader and you train the new younger Angels so they can do what you have learned. He was very excited because he had thought he could no longer be an Angel. He had a whole new excitement about service and has now made a decisions to attend Bible school starting next year. The school starts in August and they do not allow students to start mid year.

Lynne and I are thrilled with this young man and believe God has great plans for him. Pray for Tello.



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