



CROSSVISION JUNE 2005 CINCO DE MAYO

**“SORROWFUL, YET ALWAYS REJOICING; POOR,
YET MAKING MANY RICH; HAVING NOTHING, AND
YET POSSESSING EVERYTHING.” (2 COR 6:10)**

CrossVision has had the joy of working with many saints all over the world, but as long as I live I don't know if I will ever meet a man who more fits this verse than Pastor Serilo Romero of Acuna, Mexico. Serilo lives on the impoverished west side of Acuna where he pastors an established Church as well as three mission points. He diligently serves to the point of exhaustion every day. I have known him for two years and he never frowns, he always has a joy-filled smile on his face and is excited at the presence of all people--Gringo or Mexican, makes no difference to him. I hope you will bear with me because I find the greatest trips the hardest to put into words. I will need to DOG IT (depend on God) on this one.

I would love to be able to tell you the whole story of Hill Top Baptist Church, Pastor Ron Ivey and the mighty work God has done to draw this church out and send them on mission. I would love to be able to tell you about how God controlled the circumstances to move this team from Nuevo Laredo to Acuna and in doing so bring Anabel, (one of God's chosen servants and who we all Love) and Jose, (who I find to be a true servant and one of my favorite translators) to Acuna so He could change Jose's heart and give Anabel a greater love and appreciation for the people and location where her sister and brother-in-law have been called to serve. However, time and paper do not allow for more than the highlights.

The Hill Top team is a miracle in itself, for it consisted of mostly senior saints over sixty with three well into their seventies. If any group of folks could have had legitimate excuses for not going on mission it would have to be them. Joe, a lovely seventy year old motor mouth was the light and energy of the team even though she had had heart surgery to replace a valve and suffered from emphysema. Her testimony will forever stand out in my mind when after going out street witnessing she shared with the team she had for many years wanted to lead someone to Christ and for the first time in her life that afternoon she did so. Three others had diabetes, another suffered a stroke, another was a cancer survivor and another had congestive heart failure. By now you're probably thinking only an irresponsible fool would have taken this team to one of the hottest places on earth at the hottest time of year and the truth is I whole heartedly agree. Thank God He did not agree and He chose to send and use them into a new work and reach close to a hundred souls for Jesus.

Pastor Serilo was beside himself when God began to use his Church members and him side by side with gringo's to reach the lost living in the new colonia. He was especially thrilled with the life changing experience one of his young men, Luis, had as he lead a young lost man in the sinner's prayer. God so impacted Serilo's life that he committed his whole church to meet on the highest point in the area at sunrise on Saturday to pray for the people who had accepted Christ, and then go out and begin visiting and drawing them into the church that they might grow.

Yes this team could have stayed home and I could have said, “No, I won’t take them,” but thank God we have a powerful Savior who does all the choosing and He never makes a mistake. I learned a lot on this trip: I learned rejoicing drowns out sorrow, that you can be triumphant in your poverty, that the richest men are those who give the most and I possess more than the world can imagine because of God’s grace.

Special Praises:

- ✝ Praise God for His grace given to this team during their work in colonia Cinco De Mayo
- ✝ Praise God for the ninety plus of people who prayed to receive Christ and for the one hundred plus children who came to Bible school
- ✝ Praise God for Pastor Serilo and his church members
- ✝ Praise God for John Navara and the members of Movmento De Fe who helped CrossVision redirect and facilitate the needs of this team in less than one week

Immediate Prayer Requests:

Pray for the following upcoming teams and mission trips:

- Acuna, MX: Fredonia Hills Baptist Church, Nacogdoches, TX
- Allende MX: East Mountain Baptist Church, East Mountain, TX
- Acuna, MX: Lone Star Baptist Church, Lone Star, TX
- ✝ Pray for the People of Nuevo Laredo, MX that the violence and blood shed will stop and that the city will again become safe.
- ✝ Pray for Pastors Nicholas Alba, Pedro Pecheco, Jose Lima, and many others who stand in the gap in Nuevo Laredo.
- ✝ Please Pray for CrossVision that God will keep us in His hand and choose to continue to use us in the lives of others as well as surround us with those who’s lives He has changed.
- ✝ Please pray for God’s servants on the full time mission field
- ✝ Remember Ephesians 6:18 says always pray for all the saints, So please Pray for each other