



## CROSSVISION SEPTEMBER 2005

**“YOU WILL RECEIVE POWER WHEN THE HOLY SPIRIT  
COMES ON YOU AND YOU WILL BE MY WITNESSES IN  
JERUSLEM, AND IN ALL JUDEA AND IN SAMARIA, AND TO  
THE ENDS OF THE EARTH.” (ACT 1:8)**

In 1996 I had the privilege of serving and going on mission to the top of the earth in North West Guatemala with Gary and Lily Stone and their children Lindsey and Will. It was a ten day trip during which I became so sick I told God and everybody else just go ahead and kill me. I was ready to die and get it over with when Gary came by and with all his missionary compassion said “**This too will pass**” only he didn’t have a clue when. He was followed by my back-up leader and good friend Joe Lively who asked “If you die, can I have your truck?”

Well, thank God I did survive and returned home nineteen pounds lighter with a whole new perspective of missions. I was so happy at our arrival back at the Houston Airport I kissed the Texas ground and told the guys if I had to I could walk home from here. Until last week I would have told you that Ixchiguan Guatemala was the end of the earth that Jesus was spoke of in Acts 1:8.

I had come to think of Mexico as Texas’ back yard never really understanding the vastness of it. But after traveling with Luis Martinez and a small team from Primera Iglesia Bautista in Acuna to his home in the northern desert below Big Bend, I would now argue as to where the ends of the earth really are. Three hundred twelve miles from the border crossing and nine and half hours later we arrived at Acebuchi. The last seventy two miles took four and a half hours as we literally drove across the desert floor zigzagging through the cactus. The people of Acebuchi and the neighboring ejido of Eusimia survive by harvesting a desert plant called candelia and boiling it to extract wax which is sold for about \$1 a pound. They are able to produce around 250 pounds a month. If you compare them to some areas of the border they are far from poor except when it comes to the things of God.

We surveyed the people to see how many Christians lived in the two ejidos. We discovered one truly understanding Christian in Acebuchi and none in Eusimia. One or two families did have Bibles but the majority did not. One of our questions was, “Are you and your family interested in learning about God and if regular Bible studies were held in your pueblo would you attend?” Without exception everyone was interested and said they would attend.

**This trip to the end of the earth was to help Luis Martinez establish himself as a missionary to a people a people who have not known the gospel or heard of the love that Jesus has for them.** I believe God wants CrossVision to assist Luis in building a relationship with these good people. In their culture they just do not except strangers or the words of strangers and unless you can build a bridge of trust you will find frustration and disappointment. This is why I believe CV working with Luis and Primera Iglesia is God’s way of reaching to this end of the earth.

### *Special Praises:*

- † Praise God for His grace given to us as we traveled across Mexico.
- † Praise God for the hunger of people to know of him in Acebuchi and Eusimia.
- † Praise God for the Luis Martinez and Primera Iglesia in Acuna and their rekindled desire for doing missions.
- † Praise God for the peace that has finally began to come to Nuevo Laredo, MX.
- † Praise God for those pastors and Christians who stood their ground and did not run in the face of satan's few.

### *Immediate Prayer Requests:*

Pray for the following upcoming teams and mission trips:

- St. Andrews Baptist, Panama City, FL, working in Nuevo Laredo MX (Oct 8-16)
- The Annual CrossVision Christmas Trip to serve alongside Primera Iglesia Bautista in and around Acuna MX
- † Pray for the people suffering through the disaster in the after math of Katrina.
- † Pray for Pastors Pedro Pecheco, and his church as they distribute five hundred copies of the gospels of John in some high risk colonias in NL.
- † 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 whose lives He has changed.
- † Please pray for God's servants on the full time mission field especially those in Muslim countries.
- † Remember Ephesians 6:18 says always pray for all the saints, so please pray for each other.