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Thanks so much for joining us in this exciting adventure of taking the love of Christ to the world. You probably have a lot of questions for us since we last wrote so we'll attempt to answer some of those in this letter.

What are your current plans? We are now targeting May as our departure date to Mexico but we have learned that exact dates and plans are in the Lord's hands. We simply move forward waiting upon Him to guide us.

What will we do until your departure? We have documentation and business to care for (power of attorney, certificates to be apostilled, change in licenses, insurance), a house to sell and pack up, a van to purchase, an ordination to prepare for and complete, churches to contact and share in, medical and dental check-ups, etc. In addition to these things we have a lot of correspondence, traveling, and just plain daily living.

What is the length of an average deputation? It takes an average of two years to get to the field. We finished Candidate Orientation in July of 2004 but it wasn't until March of 2005 that we actively began support development. We are all excited at how quickly support has come since some have waited five years to get to the field.

What is the spiritual landscape of Mexico look like? In the words of our team leader, "To see people crawling on their knees trying to gain favor from Mary is enough to break even the hardest Christian heart. To see priests bow to Mary and ignore Jesus brings one to the point of anger. To see the precious indigenous people offering the sacrifice of first fruits to the feet of Mary is enough to drive a person to tears."

How's the work going in Mexico? Currently there are five missionaries on the field with five others to arrive this year. A new church of 25 neighbors is meeting in the home of our teammates with the second house church scheduled to meet by the end of January. The strategy is multiplying Mexican-led house-churches that will spread the gospel to their neighbors. They are also conducting Good News English Classes and reaching out to youth. A recent discovery is an open door to an orphanage of over 80 children.

How can you hold the ropes of prayer over the next few months?

- 1) Pray that the spiritual strongholds of Mexico will be broken. These include Roman Catholicism, worship of Mary, idolatry, witchcraft and alcoholism.
- 2) Pray for the emotional process of sorting, discarding, packing up, and saying good-byes.
- 3) Pray that God would fill our hearts with His love for those whom we will be reaching.
- 4) Continue to pray for the right person to help with homeschooling the children.

In the Clutches of the Cross,
Ken & Diana