

Day 5

Wow, today we had the privilege of learning about two amazing ministries here in Oaxaca that are attending to some of the most vulnerable in their society. One of the great ministries we visited was the Home For Children through a ministry called Fundación Cristo por su Mundo. We were greeted warmly by one of their staff members who led us on a tour of the whole complex. We were able to learn more about the day to day operations of the campus that hosts close to forty students, all who belong to the state of Mexico. These children have come from unstable homes, in which they don't have parents that can care for them. One of the beautiful aspects of their campus was the on-campus school program that they run for their K-12th students on campus. It was beautiful to hear about how this school is led by men and women who love Jesus, and are sharing that love with the children who are living there. They also shared that another part of their ministry in the area has six full-time missionaries that are working in the mountain areas of Oaxaca to bring the gospel to people groups who have no existing church and have not yet heard of Jesus!

As we neared the end of our visit, we were given the privilege to give to each child on the campus a piece of candy (donated by Pam Ray), and also had the opportunity to greet them. The beauty of their warm smiles and gracious spirit truly made the visit worthwhile for our team.

Right before we left, the Lord enabled a vital connection to take place between two of our team leaders, Francelia and Chris McReynolds and the Director of the Children's Home. For years, Chris and Francelia had been trying to implement the excellent Christian ministry program, "AMO", into this particular Children's Home, due to its proven effectiveness to shape the minds and hearts of children with a Christian worldview. Chris and Francelia's conversation with the Director of the Children's Home resulted in a positive outcome, as the Director shared that she had been trying to find the program for some time in order to use the curriculum on the campus! Praise be to Jesus!

Later in the day, we had the privilege of being able to go and visit a church and school, led by Esther Suarez, in Tlacolula. This is a ministry that serves elementary and middle school children in an underprivileged area, in order to offer them a Christian education, while also serving as a place of worship. The AMO curriculum (same as above) has been utilized in Esther's ministry for five years now, and is incorporated into her educational program which is accredited by the State of Mexico. The children of this school marveled our FPC mission team with their creative projects that they had been completing in their classes recently. One of their projects included creating the solar system out of Styrofoam and two electrical wires that created a dazzling display of lights (serving as stars) around the planets! We had the pleasure of serving Esther and her students' to a delicious chicken dinner. We presented new reformed study bibles signed by all members of our FPC mission team to Esther and Fanny (teacher at Esther's school).

Esther also served us homemade ice cream from Oaxaca, which was muy delicioso! We ended our time with them, in which each of the seven children came up in front of the FPC Mission Team and shared with us how much they appreciated our visit. We were so moved and touched by these children, along with Esther and her staff. We ended by praying over each of the children and their families.

WOW! What a day! Glory be to God!

