



June 2010

The Coleman Lantern

Shedding God's Light

Hola!

Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain. 1 Corinthians 15:58

These last few months have been very busy and fulfilling. April was the spring semester mission trip to four different cities over two states. May was the first graduation for the school and this month, June, we marked our five year anniversary in Mexico.

Shawn went on the mission trip with 35 people stopping in Tecaté & Mexicali in Baja Ca., and then on to Hermosillo and Bahia Kino in the state of Sonora. At the last minute it was decided that I would stay back as schedules changed and the school would have been left without anyone from the leadership team. A few of the team were given clown lessons (?) and then performed in the city parks. By all accounts Shawn was born for this! He did enjoy the people in the parks. All clowning aside there were many lives touched and we continued to receive positive feedback and requests to return. God is amazing and so very faithful. The team held events for kids, youth and women. They cleaned up the city parks and then held concerts. The team also spent a day at a home for seniors. All along the message was the same. Choose Jesus, choose life, and that life begins today.



May 21st was the first graduation for CCBC! We are so amazed at what the Lord has done. There were 7 graduates all receiving the equivalent of an Associates of Theology degree. We hosted almost 300 people who all came to support the students. These graduates deserve special recognition as they have been with us since the first day the school opened. What craziness

they endured that first semester! All of the men headed off to full time ministry positions. Two of the women returned to work in their home churches



and the third is considering her options between two ministries or back to work in her previous field. No matter where they go they have built a strong foundation to build their future on. They will build it on the Rock, Jesus.

And this month, June, marks five years serving in Mexico. We have talked about the last five years, all we have learned, all the ways we have grown. How much more we have learned about ourselves, each other, (who knew Shawn loved donuts?) and the faithful God we serve. We have talked about the challenges of being away from family, friends, conveniences, stability. How crazy to learn a new language and move 9 times in five years leaving behind many things that were or are so important in our lives. And at the end of the conversation the question remains do we still believe God has called us here? Have we accomplished all we were supposed to do? Is it time to go home now? After prayer and seeking the Lord we know this without a doubt. We are completely in God's will, He did call us here and He has not moved us on yet. We serve a God that is faithful, true, alive, and ever present. We have learned He is a "just-in-time" God, providing just when we need things and not too far in advance. We have seen amazing miracles. He loves us and fills us with a peace that non-Christians cannot comprehend. That doesn't mean we have no problems, it means our God is bigger than any problems we have and already knows the solution. We also know we are here only because of you who love and support us and, even if you don't understand, still encourage us. Thank you with all of our hearts.

May God richly bless each of you and give you a special blessing this week that reminds you He loves you more than you know.

Gratefully in His service,
Shawn and Karen