



DARE TO DREAM CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION

A Note of Gratitude from Jan Tennyson

I recently returned from an extraordinary Medical Mission's trip to Mexico City. However, before I left, many in my community asked, "Jan, when the economy is so bad, and there are dangers of earthquakes, violence, and the flu, why would you get on a plane and go to a place where you don't know the language, the people don't know you and you may never see them again?"

My only answer is that I know I was called to go. The difficulties which included, spraining my ankle the day after my arrival, having our bus lose a tire, and all that the enemy tried to do to prevent me from going didn't matter. Our small team from Hillcrest Church was powerful, and many poor and hurting people were introduced to Jesus and were blessed that we came.

A Church in a Garbage Dump?

Watching children in the garbage dumps smiling and playing like nothing was wrong brought water to my eyes.

I have seen much poverty in my life, but nothing like this. When I walked through a clearing and saw a tiny wooden chapel in the midst of the dump, I entered and began praising God. It was dark inside and there were little beams of light coming in through

the cracks. Our team prayed expecting miracles in this humble place.

With the help of Operation Serve International, we provided medical, dental, and optical services, with the love of Jesus. The Green family on our team provided face painting, nail coloring, and clowning.

I served in the optical area, and it was incredible seeing children, teenagers, adults, and the elderly being fitted for glasses, many for the first time in their lives. After many attempts to find just the correct one, they were handed a pair of glasses and some read the Bible for the first time ever. Many received salvation when we prayed with them. It was a chance to be Jesus to them.

Visiting a small village church and hearing the pastor remark, "I've been praying for years for a team like this come and serve my people" touched my heart. The food cooked by church members to say *thank you* to our team when they had so little themselves, was like Jesus saying, I'm so pleased you were willing to be My hands and feet.

Many hurting people were touched by the Master's Hand through a small team that was willing to "Go." I'm so grateful for those who were willing to "send" us. Our Savior was glorified.

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