

MacTrips Coordinator Mike Ryan

Working with



December 2016

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I have a lot to share with you. October and November were incredibly busy for me. Our home church, Hillcrest Baptist Church, had our Annual Missions Revival at the beginning of October. Brant Lane preached and was an encouragement to us all. It was great to see many friends from the mission field and get to spend some quality time with them.

On October 21st I left for one week to Cienfuegos, Cuba with the Mac-med team. The church family took great care of us and cooked some amazing food for us. We held the medical campaign in the church, Temple Baptista. The church is 129 years old.

I was struggling with the fact that I could not witness publicly. I couldn't even hand out John and Romans booklets. I thought of Paul being put in prison and beaten. That didn't stop him. I felt bad because I thought I should be that brave. The second day we were there the Pastor talked to us on what to do on the streets. He said to remember "the walls have ears". He said that people will talk to us and just start talking about the government. If we say anything bad about the government we would go to jail and the church would get in trouble. When he told us that, God spoke to me. He reminded me it was not about me. It was about the church in Cienfuegos, Cuba and the work there. I might be brave and go to jail for God but it would ruin what that church could do for years to come. God knows how to humble us. We saw 277 patients in the week we were there. Some of which may have never stepped into the church had we not come to help. I hope to go back to Cuba one day.

I got home at 8 pm on Friday October 28th and left at 4 am Saturday October 29th for San Luis Potisi, Mexico. This was a Mac - building trip. The Builders built a two story church building in the two weeks we were there. This was the first time the Builders had taken a team with them for evangelism. Prentice Wilson from Deer Park, Texas and Brandon Jones from Somerset, Kentucky and myself were solely there to evangelize in the area around the building project. We handed out about 600 John and Romans booklets. There were 65 professions of faith! It was amazing to watch the Lord work like He did on this trip.

The Lord never fails to teach me a lesson in faith on every one of the trips I go on. This time he reminded me that everyone is worthy of Him. Don't write of the outcast people in this world. One day Prentice, Brandon and I walked down the street with our translator Raymundo. Brandon saw a lady walking on the other side of the road and he prayed that if God wanted us to talk to her He would stop her so that we could catch up with her. An old man stopped her and talked to her. Brandon and Raymundo went to talk to her while Prentice and I talked to the old man. He had plastic bags for socks in his shoes. He was a street sweeper and it was obvious he was very poor. He was talking to us and gave us the impression he was a little mentally unstable. I thought to myself we should just go. This is a waste of our time. Then the lady made a profession of faith and when Prentice and I walked up to Brandon, the old man followed us. Raymundo started talking to him and he made a profession of faith as well. His name is Don Pepe. He was so excited, he wanted us to write down every word of how to be saved so he could go home and tell his wife and daughters. He went into a store and bought us all a bottle of water. He wouldn't let us pay him back for them. He couldn't afford to do that for us, but he insisted. God really showed me a lesson. It is not up to us who God loves. He loves everyone not just the people we think need him or we think deserve him. That mentally unstable old man was a human headed straight for hell that need the Lord. I pray that I see all people the way God sees them and loves them.

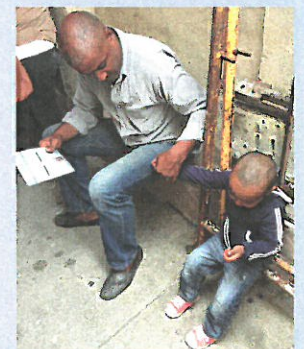
May God bless you all for your prayers and support. It is greatly appreciated.

Michael Ryan

SENDING CHURCH:
Hillcrest Baptist
Church
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Travel Schedule:

2017 Dates Coming Soon



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