

Engaging the One to Reach the Many

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Willard and Joani Hochhalter 12305 Meadow Lane Louisville, KY 40243

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Dear Friends.

In a world facing hardship, one thing remains constant: hope. Behind that hope stands dedicated pastors and leaders who refuse to give up in their cities and communities. Hope is a beacon of light in a world full of challenges and uncertainty, guiding Mexican and Caribbean cities and communities toward a better future.

"... and we rejoice in the hope of the glory of God. Not only so, but we also rejoice in our sufferings, because we know suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope. And hope does not disappoint us, because God has poured out his love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, whom he has given us." Romans 5:2-5 (NIV1984)

"We thank God for the Caribbean pastors and leaders involved in the church planting movement called Mercy Network." Pastor Guillermo claims, "This has been a blessing to each of us in the capital city to bless and help the women, children, seniors and the vulnerable in our city and the local churches. We are so grateful for the resources we have been entrusted to bring the message of hope to our city.

"As a pastor of a house church, after God led to us Mercy Network, we have increased in two months; 25 new members and 20 children. We are also ministering to three mentally handicapped. We rejoice in what God is doing to expand His kingdom, and this increase in attendance has forced us to move into a larger meeting place. To God be the glory.

"It has been a great blessing to be a part of the Mercy Network, where we have been equipped and challenged with a passion for the lost souls and have taken our ministry to another level. We have amplified our vision and mission in the community with "To the table with Jesus." We prepare and deliver 25 meals to seniors every Sunday and for the children every Saturday. Each time we take a meal to a family, the recipients' faces light up with a smile as words of the love of Jesus and the hope we have in him are offered by those delivering. Many lives have been transformed by this message of hope."

The message of love and hope continues to be spread to many sections of Mexico. Ricardo Arizmendi's reports that despite oppression and violence in many sections of the country, the message of hope and love resonates to the non-believers. Just recently, 10 workshops were well attended in 4 Mexican states, with more than 250 families attending. The Mexico Bible Society and the Saturation Mexico team developed these workshops with the focus on the family to strengthen their values in their home. The children were taught to understand the importance of the prevention of violence, both physical and emotional, in school and at home. Our Saturation Mexico team is extremely pleased in how united efforts, working together, bring light and hope to these people who are searching for it.

When the future is dark and unknown, as is the case for many of the Mexican and Caribbean people before they said yes to Jesus, Easter is the time of the year when we are reminded that our HOPE is in the cross.

"Blessed is the man who trusts in the Lord, and whose hope is the Lord." Jeremiah 17:7 (NKJV) In His service.

Willie and Joani Hochhalter