

Notes from Dan and DeAnn!!

**You are so vital to the ministry here. Thank you for praying for what is going on in Mexico!*

A New Year! A New Team! New Prayer Requests! New Goals!

Prayer Requests:

- Pray for direction as the new semester starts up with a different team than we had planned.
- Pray that the Spanish Institute would be a good fit for DeAnn and that God would enable her to learn Spanish quickly.
- Pray for our spiritual health. That we would be ministering out of an overflow of our relationship with God.
- Pray specifically for Pachuca, Puebla, Aguascalientes, and Mexico City as those are the cities we will be focusing on.
- Praise God for a new year and new opportunities to serve Him! Praise God for blessing last year!

Can you say New Year's Resolution with me?! Well that is where we are at when we talk about the Catalytic Ministry in Mexico. Our plan, and let me emphasize plan was to have a five person team at this time. DeAnn and Dan, Victor, and then Eddy and Cristina. However things have definitely changed. Eddy and Cristina are running into Visa problems and are still raising support. They will not be here before March. Victor is on leave due to some financial issues until March also. That then leaves DeAnn and I as the team. So obviously we are taking a look at our goals, what and where we need to focus, and how to really use our time wisely.

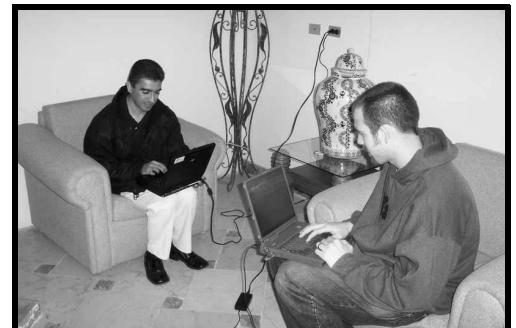


The Spanish Institute of Puebla

One of the big changes in what we are doing this next semester is in what DeAnn will be focusing on. DeAnn feels that she is really being limited by her Spanish level and she wants to be able to contribute on a deeper level. Therefore what DeAnn is doing is to start taking intensive Spanish for the next two months. As we look at the timing it is perfect with the way our team is shaping up. She will be studying at the Spanish Institute of Puebla with classes four hours a day for four days a

week...until our team is whole again in March.

Here is a little update on what happened before Christmas. And a lot happened! One major happening is: As of now we are working in each of the cities we asked you to pray about. We had a great trip to Aguascalientes and met with the student leaders there. We went with Craig Johring, a catalytic director in Nebraska, and he proved invaluable in terms of



Dan and Victor preparing for the Catalytic time at our staff conference.

helping us understand our roles and how to give the students vision. Our trip to Pachuca was very successful as well. Bob and Sharla (CAM missionaries) were extremely encouraging and we have the same vision. Things in Pachuca are starting up now in January. In Puebla we are talking with Efrain, a student, and Hernan, a professor and coach. We are excited about the possibilities here! And finally Mexico City was a great visit. We met with the guy leaders there and are looking forward to a good semester of ministry with them. As a team we also had the opportunity to present what we are doing to the rest of the staff in Mexico at a conference. It was encouraging to get their feedback and to know that they are supportive of us!

And Here's the Rest of the Story...

For those of you who haven't visited dananddeann.com!



There have been some questions as to exactly where is Puebla...and we just wanted everyone to know. In the picture on the front page you may have noticed Dan was wearing a hooded sweatshirt. And it wasn't for style...it was cold!!! Puebla is in the mountains at about 7000 feet elevation. We haven't seen snow here, except on the volcano that is just outside of Puebla (supposedly active!) but the houses here don't have insulation or heat so when it is cold it is cold! It surprised us too! Puebla is pretty centrally located in terms of population in Mexico. The north is very sparsely populated and so even though we are quite a ways south, we are in the really in the best spot for our ministry. We are two hours away from Pachuca and Mexico City, and we are eight hours from Aguascalientes. We are about five hours from the Gulf coast and about eight hours from the Pacific. It looks like we are much closer to the Gulf than that, but there are no direct roads! Just some Puebla trivia...**Typical food of Puebla:** Cemitas: a sandwich on a bun typically made with breaded beef, chicken or made with pickled pigs feet (I don't recommend the later.) **Typical Candy:** Camotes: sort of a sweet candy with a jam type consistency...some people like them. And Tortitas de Santa Clara: great little cookies! **Population:** 3 Million. **Misc:** Volkswagen plant here produced the old VW bug until last spring...longest production run vehicle in history. And much much more...but we will wait until some later date to continue!

Some of you have asked for our contact information here in Mexico. So here is all the info for us!!!

Permanent address (U.S.):
c/o Decker
239 Walnut St.
Beaver Dam, WI
53916

Address in Mexico:
Priv. 47 B Sur # 4519
Fracc. Estrellas del Sur
Puebla, Puebla 72190
MX

Telephone in Mexico:
011-52-222-248-3199
(bigzoo.com has the best calling card rates for Puebla)

Email:
email@dananddeann.com
Webpage:
www.dananddeann.com