



Travel Journal of Manos de Dios

Missions to Mexico

Dennis & Lucy Smith

- Encouraging, equipping & empowering indigenous evangelical pastors in Sonora, Mexico
- Prison Ministry in Puerto Peñasco
- Praying
- Seeking Godly transformation of ourselves and others
-

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I love meeting new people in the barrios of Mexico. Today I had a special task. A Solar Oven had been donated by a Girl Scout Troup from Ft. Huachuca, (Sierra Vista) Arizona. We prayed that God would lead us to the family God intended to receive this donated item. I then went to visit a local Pastora to ask her if she knew of a family that would benefit from the gift of this Solar Oven. Her mission church is located in an area of Puerto Peñasco, Sonora that is without electricity and running water.

She had 'just the family' for this gift and we drove directly to their home. Elizabeth eagerly walked out to greet her Pastora and to meet me. Her smile was beautiful and I saw the light of Jesus in her eyes. After meeting her precious children and sister-in-law and her family (who lived next door), I noticed a block wood-burning oven next to her house (see photo above). At first I thought, "she already has an oven!" We checked out the oven and she told me that they make small breads and pastries to bake in the oven using wood as fuel. She sells the bread out of her home and to her neighbors by walking the dirt roads with bags of pastries. (Sign in photo above translates: Little White Girl's Bakery * Hot bread Monday through Saturday.) Elizabeth invited me to come back later for fresh bread.

I then asked her about her need for a place to cook meat and other foods. She purchases propane (when she can afford it) for cooking other foods. Their family of 5 lives in a one-room wooden home (See home in photo on next page.) I sensed that this woman would know how to use a unique oven like the one we had to give away. She would make the effort to learn how to cook with it and make good use of it. I asked her if she would be interested in having an oven that used the power from the sun. "Yes!", was her enthusiastic reply.

I brought the Solar Oven into the yard and opened it up to show the power of



Pastora Alicia with Elizabeth (wearing apron) & her family with donated Solar Oven (in front of their home).

Precious children pose for their own photo.

the solar panels. The children were curious and Elizabeth seemed very interested. We took photos to share with the Girls Scout Troop and she carefully put the gift away in her house.

I promised to come back for fresh baked bread and to see how the oven worked when used for cooking a variety of foods. I prayed a blessing over their family and took Pastora Alicia back to her mission church.

“Wow, God! What a blessing to meet this family. I pray this Solar Oven will be a blessing to them and will be a reminder of how much You love them, Lord. Thank you for giving Dennis and me the privilege of being Your ‘hands and feet’ in Mexico. We love you, Lord. Amen.”

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