

ANOTHER VEHICLE DONATED TO A FAMILY IN MEXICO

Pastors Alfonso and Angelita receive Suburban

Travel Journal of

Manos de Dios

Missions to Mexico

Dennis & Lucy Smith

What we're doing....

Encouraging, equipping & empowering indigenous pastors in Sonora, Mexico

Prison Ministry in Puerto Peñasco

Praying

Seeking Godly transformation of ourselves and others

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November was a busy month for us. Besides the usual relationship building, praying, and encouraging of pastors and our brothers & sisters in northern Sonora, we led the children's outreach programs during Pantano Church's Amor house build weekend.

Just before the activities started we were able to deliver a donated 1984 Suburban to Pastor Alfonso. He was in need of a vehicle and we had been praying for a donation of one for <u>about a year</u>. Patience paid off and in October we were blessed with a donation of the Suburban from one of our supporters.

Mechanically, the vehicle was in excellent shape however, the paint was faded. That made it fit right in with many of the vehicles in Mexico! Normally we spend at least one day a month with our pastor friends in El Diamante. But, due to our busy schedule with the Pantano house building team coming to Peñasco, Pastor Alfonso and his wife, Angelita agreed to meet us half way between their home of El Diamante and Peñasco, in an ejido named Quince (about 50 miles south of Peñasco).

They were pleased and felt blessed by the donation. They knew of its large size and planned to possibly trade it with someone for a smaller (with better gas mileage) vehicle or to sell it and purchase a more economical one. That was OK with us and showed that Pastor was using good judgment and making the best use of their finances.



Pastors Alfonso and Angelita of Templo Peniel, El Diamante, Sonora

A large emphasis for this church is children and youth ministry. Last summer's VBS theme was CARS! The final day included a 'race' of the homemade cars. Dennis, Alfonso and Angelita 'model' some of the cars here.



Galations 5:4-6 says 'I suspect you would never intend this, but this is what happens. When you attempt to live by your own religious plans and projects, you are cut off from Christ, you fall out of grace. Meanwhile we expectantly wait for a satisfying relationship with the Spirit. For in Christ, neither our most conscientious religion nor disregard of religion amounts to anything. What matters is something far more interior: faith expressed in love.' (The Message)

As we met behind a small elementary school, many children came up to the fence and smiled and watched us as we visited.

Soon, adults and people in the area came out to see what was going on.

This is not a tourist town (currently has population of only about 200 people) and they do not see very many Anglo people in their community. They could also have been cautious because about 3 months ago a group of armed men came into town and kidnapped a man from his home in the middle of the night. He has not been heard from or seen since. The day after that happened many of the people in the community left! A few days after the incident we were planning to come to the community to assist a pastor from Peñasco with an outreach program there. However, due to the violence and people leaving the community, the program was cancelled.

Recently we have talked to Pastor Alfonso and he told us he has sold the Suburban and is in the process of finding a more economical vehicle.

Thank you, Lord, for helping us all have patience and for generous donors!

Dios te bendiga, Dennis

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