

September/October 2011
Update Newsletter

Manos de Dios
"Hands of God"
Ministries

Dennis & Lucy Smith

**Loving, Teaching
& Encouraging
Couples, Pastors,
Christ followers &
the Lost
in Mexico & the
United States**

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Trip to the White Mountains of Arizona

As you know, we have been praying for clear direction concerning ministering in the US and in Mexico or wherever God wants us to go. Earlier this month we were

going through old DVD's and found a DVD that was given to us in 2005. It was from an American Indian Christian Mission (AICM) school in northern Arizona. We had no idea why we kept it for so long but before we tossed it, we decided to review it. We are glad we did and planned a visit to meet with the director and to pray about the possibility of partnering with them as they serve God's children.

On the 20th of September we went to their facility, northwest of the community of Show Low, Arizona. Everyone there was open, honest and totally dedicated to serving God and providing a safe and healthy environment for the children they serve. They currently house 27 Navajo and Apache school age children AND 21 staff live at their facility. They provide education and Christian teaching for the students with certified teachers and dedicated house parents. The students go home to the reservation every weekend.

AICM also has 2 school buses and goes out to communities on the reservation 5 days a week to present a mini VBS. They provide games, crafts and biblical messages to the children who go to school on the reservation. And now they are reaching out to their parents!

We discussed the operations of their ministry and how we might come along side them in their Kingdom work. It was a very productive meeting, and the Lord willing, the start of a special relationship. We also talked about work projects that need to be done on the property (90 acres and 12 buildings). They have the funding but lack the manpower to complete many of the tasks (short term mission team opportunities in Arizona?). We sense lots of potential for partnership; working with children, sharing God's message,



American Indian Christian Mission
school, Show Low, AZ

**"With this news, strengthen those who have tired hands,
and encourage those who have weak knees.**

**Say to those with fearful hearts,
'Be strong, and do not fear,
for your God is coming to destroy your enemies.
He is coming to save you.'" Isaiah 35:3-4 (NLT)**

Trip to the White Mountains (con't)

providing unconditional love and being hands and feet of Jesus. What else could you ask for?

Then it was on to Eager/Springerville, Arizona (an hour's drive east of Show Low) to visit Pastor Bob and members of his church, Calvary Hills Christian Fellowship Church. This relationship started when Lucy, Suzanne and Kent went to Pinetop/Lakeside, Arizona to minister to and offer meals to the people displaced by the Wallow fire that had engulfed the pine forest in that area. We now learned that this area is in Apache County, the poorest County in Arizona, and that there is a tremendous need for spiritual and physical assistance. Lucy and I were able to attend a prayer session where prayers were lifted up for individuals, the community, our government and officials, those sick and for pastors. During our meeting with Pastor Bob we were able to listen to the needs of the community and of his church and he was able to learn about who we are and why we were there. It was a wonderful time of sharing and learning. And, there is the possibility of bringing some of our seminars to the area in the near future. I have a feeling that we will be telling you more and more about serving in this area.

We were invited to visit the community food bank's weekly food box distribution. We had a wonderful morning of fellowship with and encouragement of the local people (believers and non believers). Lucy had the opportunity to pray with and for people that were struggling and she even saw a young couple that she met at the campground for displaced families when she was serving in Pinetop/Lakeside last June during the forest fire! This was also our first opportunity to give away the blankets that were donated for those in need. As the people picked up a box of food, we gave them a blanket. It was a great way to meet and fellowship with many people. We were also able to give blankets to Pastor Bob's church, children of the local elementary school and the Crisis Pregnancy Center (that was next door to the community food bank). People were very appreciative and some people even said "No thank you, I have enough, save it for someone who really needs it." What a refreshing response and the opportunity to see people who had not succumbed to greed!

We have been invited to return to northern Arizona to pray, join in evangelism activities and provided labor on the AICM campus. At least one Love and Respect Marriage Conference is planned for spring 2012. We already have a short term mission team trip planned for November and will keep you informed of the opportunity for you to join us in the future! Dennis@ManosdeDios.org



Two students are served at school cafeteria.



Blue Bus evangelical ministry used to go to Indian reservations



Blankets given out at food bank in Springerville, AZ

‘—“When God our Savior revealed His kindness and love, He saved us, not because of the righteous things we had done, but because of His mercy. He washed away our sins, giving us a new birth and new life through the Holy Spirit. He generously poured out the Spirit upon us through Jesus Christ our Savior. Because of His grace He declared us righteous and gave us confidence that we will inherit eternal life.” This is a trustworthy saying, and I want you to insist on these teachings so that all who trust in God will devote themselves to doing good. These teachings are good and beneficial for everyone.’ Titus 3:4-8

Manos de Dios Ministry update

September was a month of praying, planning, preparing and discernment and we did all of these things! We have been praying for many months for discernment as to what the next steps would be in our walk with Jesus and what our mission activities would be as we serve our Lord.

We are called to use the gifts God has given us and is growing in us. These include:

- Strengthening the saints and encouraging those who shepherd them
- Knowing and teaching Truth from scripture
- Praying with and for all who come across our path
- Assisting with physical needs to provide blessings for others and a way to share the Gospel
- Reaching out to the lost and hurting in Mexico and Arizona

Practically speaking we will be sharing:

- Love and Respect Marriage conferences in Mexico and Arizona
- Discipleship teaching, materials, and mentoring in Mexico and Arizona
- Assistance with evangelistic outreaches in Mexico and on Arizona reservations
- Physical work projects in Mexico and on Arizona reservations
- Intercessory prayer, love and encouragement

In the months of September and October we were blessed with the donation of many tangible items (including a donation of 700 blankets, 2 laptops and medical supplies) to pass on to those in need in Mexico and northern Arizona. Thank you, Lord for these blessings!

May God bless you! Dennis & Lucy

Our daughter Megan marries Regan Jasper October 7th

It was a beautiful day in Napa Valley, CA for their wedding! We have a new, wonderful son-in-law who loves our daughter very much. We are blessed! They have already attended a Love & Respect Conference! (:



“That is why a man leaves his father and mother and is united to his wife, and they become one flesh.” Genesis 2:24

We are rejuvenated, Spirit led and excited about being used by the Lord for His Kingdom! We are sensing the importance of sharing truths, teaching, praying and mentoring believers! We have been encouraged, taught and strengthen and are being let to pass that to others. In addition to continuing to serve in Sonora, Mexico we will broaden our ministry area to include northern Arizona. There is much need (spiritual & physical) on the Apache and Navajo Reservations and in the small communities in Apache County, Arizona. Our new relationships are opening the door for Manos de Dios to be God's hands and feet.

Please contact if you have any questions.

"As for you, Titus, promote the kind of living that reflects wholesome teaching. Teach the older men to exercise self-control, to be worthy of respect, and to live wisely. They must have sound faith and be filled with love and patience. Similarly, teach the older women to live in a way that honors God...These older women must train the younger women to love their husbands and their children, to live wisely and be pure...In the same way, encourage the young men to live wisely. And you yourself must be an example to them by doing good works of every kind. Let everything you do reflect the integrity and seriousness of your teaching. Teach the truth so that your teaching can't be criticized." Titus 2: 1-8



Laura is one of four women Lucy is mentoring/discipling in Tucson. What a joy to pray, worship and read the Word together! How powerful it is to meet regularly to hold each other accountable to God's principles for life and marriage. As Lucy has been mentored for years by her close friend, she is encouraging other women in their walk with the Lord!

How about you?

Ways to support us:

- **Give a one time financial gift**
- **Monthly contributions via online banking, check, or Pay Pal**
 - **Assistance with physical items, as needed**
- **Prayer! For God's wisdom, guidance and protection**
- **Perform updates on our Manos de Dios website**

All contributions are tax deductible.

Give online at www.ManosdeDios.org/donations.html Thank you! Lucy & Dennis