

Subject: Christmas Newsletter!

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Conversation: Christmas Newsletter!

Category: MEA Accounts

Christmas 2009

Here's the end of the year already and Christmas has just gone by...

Like many of you, I find that this is an excellent time to give a little overview of what has happened in my life during the past year.

At the beginning of November, it's been a year that I came back to Canada. Originally, I was taking a 6 months sabbatical and then going back to Mexico to work in Oaxaca. However, there have been many circumstances in my life in the past year through which I didn't feel ready to go back to Mexico.

Last March, I felt that God was calling me to stay put and take a time of rest near Him, in the secret place. I needed to take some time to focus on Him and to know His will for my life.

My desire to serve Him on the Mission field is on the ice for now and I still feel in the dark as far as my future is concerned. But I feel at peace and I trust that God is painting on His big canvas some projects that are designed for me.

For now, I am living with my father as I couldn't start some new projects here since I had no idea of what was lying in front of me.

Fortunately, God opened a door for me last April to work in a Daycare center, in the area where my father lives. I really love that job. I work with children of 1 ½ to 4 years of age. I often heard people say how much they learned while taking care of children. I can now testify that this is true: their innocent way to see life, their personalities in the making, their conflicts, all their developing stages which are normal at their age but that we can still see in adults, their discovery of the surrounding world, their fresh look and perception of things, etc. Sometimes, they are like mirrors where we can recognize ourselves to our horror or our joy.

It is not easy to put in practice what Jesus said, when He was talking about the little children in Mark 10: 13-16. We ought to have a faith of a little child, and to be trusting like a child. There are certain things which we have to 'unlearn' in order to be like a child and to become more dependant on God. I am on that learning path. In fact, we are never finished in the learning process, when we commit in the ways of the Lord... in a childlike attitude.

Also, since last September, I started to take a course called 'Living Waters', which is a course on the healing of the emotions. It is a Christian ministry which include worship times, teachings sessions and a small group where we share our hearts and receive prayers. It is a 6 months course which will end next March. As I'm doing all the different readings and listening to the teachings, and of course with the help of the Holy Spirit, I can put words on some emotions that I have felt all my life. It is a place where we can be ourselves and where we are accepted as we are, as God Himself accepts us as we are and wants to make us become the people He has created us to be.

Also I go regularly to a gym in order to exercise. It makes me feel good to burn calories and perspire. I've never been big on sports, but I always enjoyed outdoor activities and I discover now that I enjoy doing some physical training. It is a good way to release stress, fatigue and our emotions.

Something else that is happening in me is a new taste to experiment with cooking occasionally or at special occasions. Lately, with Christmas and the New Year coming, I have done some baking with recipes I found in some books and I really enjoy doing it. This is new for me as I always preferred to spend my time doing other activities and considered cooking a necessity only. So, if you happen to come by my house these days, you will be able to taste some of my new cooking talents (or experiments?).

So this is a little bit of my life story in the last year.

I would like to ask you, my friends, to pray for me about the different subjects that I have talked about in this newsletter. I really desire to be where God wants me to be. Thank you for taking the time to walk along with me. Your prayers are precious to me.

We're just a few days before the New Year... may the love of Jesus-Christ and His peace fill your hearts in this coming year in 2010!

Friendly yours,

Claudie