



8635 Collogham Rd., San Antonio, TX 78230, U.S.A.  
or Apdo. 351, cp 63000 Tepic, Nayarit, Mexico  
e-mail: jphilip@olman@netscape.net

## SEEDTIME & HARVEST MINISTRIES INC.

### Faith is Patient

The mentality of the Latin culture in our part of Mexico is very different from the Nordic way of thinking that I know. Here time is not as important or as exact. What is important is not when things happen but that they happen. As I read through the Bible I find God working in this mind set. He is patient so that none should perish but that all could have a chance to come to repentance. Faith works on this assumption.

In the month of December our secondary school was blessed with an offering to purchase new desks for the students and teachers. In January we located the desks that we wanted at the price we could afford and put in our order. Needless to say the things didn't go as planned. We finally got our down payment refunded and started searching once again. The second week in April we finally received a call that the desks were ready. The only holdup now is getting them shipped to us, which could take another 3 to 4 weeks. They will be a blessing whenever they come, as our old desks are barely functional.

In the month of March we were blessed at our yearly camps. We started our youth camp, with over 130 in attendance. As we do every year, we had our camp at a new location. This is not really difficult as the only things we need for a youth camp are a source of drinking water and a flat area where 200 people can camp. Our goal this year was to have 200 people in attendance. Even though we didn't reach this goal we had a great new experience. Almost half of the youth who came to camp were not Christians. We had the opportunity to evangelize them, bring them into the presence of God and then start to disciple them. Once again Lucy did an excellent job as the camp's main cook.

One of the young men came to me on the first day of the camp explaining that he and his friend could only stay 2 days since they had something very important to do on Thursday. I must say that the physical aspect of the camp on the first day was not inviting. I told them that it was OK but to sign out before they left. The Spirit of God started moving among the youth and when Thursday came and went, nobody left. To this day I don't remember who the young man was because he never left and what was so important on Monday was forgotten by Thursday or replaced by a desire for the things of God.

Children's camp started on an easier note three days later at the Bible School facilities. We had a great team of teachers and workers who worked with the children in a special way. The 70 plus children were blessed with teachings, dramas, manual activities and great evening services

For a break from routine Lucy and I had an interesting 2 day trip up the west coast of Mexico. For the last six months or so we have been looking for an opportunity to upgrade some of our vehicles. Our 1985 pick up now has over 450,000 Km ( 280,000 miles) while our 1998 van is coming up on 250,000 Km. Some people in Oregon were trying to help us locate a pickup in good conditions in our price range. None were available. Then where we least expected, we were able to purchase exactly what we wanted in Guadalajara. The down payment that we had sent was used to buy a motorbike. A brother from Washington loaded the bike in his pickup and brought it all the way to northern Mexico. He also did all the paper work for the importation of the bike into Mexico. All that Lucy and I did was take a 17 hour bus ride to pick up the bike and then **we drove it 14 hours** to come home and be here in time for the children's camp. As you can see the work is easier when it is done by a team effort.

In the churches we have experienced a time of house cleaning. The Lord has been dealing with the church body and has told us that he is coming for a bride that is without spot or wrinkle. Recently, He has been taking out the spots and the wrinkles. As a church we are still a long way from what He has promised that we will be at the time of His coming but we are going in the right direction. This time of cleaning has helped the churches prepare for a time of harvest that is also coming before the return of our Lord. We can't teach people to do things that we are not practicing.

As we plan into the future we want to have the opportunity to minister in our Christian school not only to young students whose parents have money to send them to a private school but also for those students who financially can't pay the expense. Even though we have been doing this in a limited way with our own funds, we want to reach out for more students. For this reason, we are looking for people who would be interested in sponsoring a student for one year starting in August. A complete scholarship would be \$50 a month, but any portion of that would provide a partial scholarship for a student. Please pray about this opportunity to reach out and touch young lives.

Thank you for all your prayers and offerings.  
*Philip, Lucy, Damara, Simri & Vanessa Tolman*

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