

News from Encarnacion, Paraguay Site of Mission Trip 2008

Encarnacion will be our Ministry Team Mission Trip for 2008! Look for the trip dates within the next few months!

God is doing such great things in and through Donald Franz church in Encarnacion, Paraguay. Greg and Mary Kay Wiens were able to spend a weekend there, a few weeks ago. When they arrived they met with church leadership on Friday evening and listened as those who have come to Christ at the church shared their Mission, Vision, and Values. They were articulate and focused. Afterwards they listened to their individual stories and heard of repeated life transformations that have taken place through Christ. The vision of the church in Encarnacion is simply this: to win the city for Christ, and then, to reach the whole country. The current focus is to turn every believer into a trained leader, capable of teaching others, so as to plant new churches in every city around the country.

On Saturday morning they spoke on secular radio and then secular TV stations. This was a great opportunity to share in practical and concrete ways what God can do in lost peoples' lives. Because these are secular stations, the people who are listening are far from Christ. Secular radio and TV are only a few of the many outreach programs including leadership training seminars; weekly services on a local secular cable TV channel; faith and marriage counseling open to the general public; membership care through small group programs; high school conferences involving parents, students, and teachers; seminars on marriage, biblical healing, evangelism, and the Holy Spirit; and the planting of new churches.

On Saturday evening, Donald called a "few" leaders together for Greg to share some encouragement with them. The auditorium was packed (around 250-300) and they had "Church"! There was great worship and stories of changed lives. Greg felt in awe of what God was doing through Donald's leadership at the church. On Sunday morning they visited the village where 150 children are being taught and fed and they witnessed a miracle of life transformation. (See pictures here)
http://www.enpocaspalabras.com/ver_contenido.php?contenido_id=55 Greg heard about their multiple venues for services in Posada, Argentina (just across the river/border) as well as several other places on the outskirts of Encarnacion.

This is one of the healthiest church plant Greg has seen abroad, ever (he has visited our churches in 12 other countries)! Because of that church's faithfulness, there are hundreds of people's lives that have changed for eternity and thousands of people who are hearing the gospel every week. If only we had many more of these kinds of ministries around the world.

As the church in Encarnacion has experienced ongoing growth, they face the need to own a local central building, so as to equip, form and train these new leaders and centralize the local church activities. The Lord has planted in their hearts the desire to get a building that could allow them to continue with their labor and satisfy their basic needs.

This building costs 250,000 US dollars. Their local church is capable of dealing with 50,000 US dollars. That is why you are invited to be part of the Church of God mission in Paraguay, with whatever God may lead you. All contributions will be funneled through Florida Church of God Ministries Resource Center. Please designate it as the Paraguay project. And let us know if you would like to travel for ministry there sometime in the second or third quarter of 2008.

