

March 2008

Greetings to all! All of us at La Roca thank you – for the time and energy, the sacrifices, and the dedication you’ve demonstrated in supporting the ministry God has raised up for His Glory!

We have started working this year with the question, ‘What if the book of Acts was not about the beginning of the church, but we were the beginning right now today?’ We have agreed that God has given us the same calling that he gave Simon Peter, Paul and all the other faithful men: to spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ in a dark and increasingly dangerous world. We, as in Paul’s day, know that answering the call will take dedication, courage and the support of thousands of people who recognize the importance of bringing God’s redemptive work to the world .

La Roca Ministry is standing firm to this challenge, working hard in spreading the message that changes people’s lives inside out, that transforms and heals the broken hearted and the poor in spirit!

If we do not believe that the Gospel saves and transforms people then we are wasting our time and your money. But let us state like Paul, in **Romans 1:16**, “for I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God’s salvation for everyone who believes!” **2 Corinthians 5:17**, “therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away: behold, all things have become new!”

Well, we are so excited seeing what God is doing in our midst! We have 3 men this time who will be graduating at the end of April, their names as follows from left to right: Juan, Fabio and Federico. You might know them already because they are serving full time in the ministry. They started with a group of 24, but they are the only ones still standing. Juan is the director to the Shelter and does the cooking for the street outreach we do every Tuesday. Fabio, is part of the leadership team at La Roca Discipleship ranch along with the evangelism team in Delicias! Federico is in charge of Ranch when Rafael is not in and also serves on the Deliaias team.

So, as you see, new disciples with commitment need to be trained and equipped for the work of ministry. This requires time and effort on our behalf, but that is the only way for the continued growth of His church that God expects from us!

Also the jail ministry is doing great, we are known for our famous Roca hot dog! We cook like 10,000 hot dogs per year for all the different locations we go to. The picture below shows a group working as a supply line getting



ready 400 hot dogs for the jail. One Sunday afternoon, as I was leaving the church I saw an American selling flowers. He said, "Hi! You are the one that came to feed us at the jail!" He was so happy that he gave me some flowers free. I said "no thank you", but he insisted. I pointed to the building behind me and showed him where we meet as a church. "I will be there next Sunday", he said. "Thanks again, I wish all Christians were like you!" That made me feel good, but all the Glory to God for making all things new again.

The women's home continues to grow with major challenges (to be expected), but the most important thing is that five teen girls are going to school. Mirsa who is 16 years old goes to school in the afternoon, so she was not able to be in the picture. The picture includes, from left to right: Estrella who is 13, Saraitd 15, Yajaira 15 and Ericka who is 16 years old.

And guess what?! Estrella's sister is with us! Julia is 15 years old and she is doing well. It's an answer to prayer, as we have asked God to bring her to her senses and come along with her sister Estrella.

She's been with us for three weeks now. Their mom has started coming to church every other week, bringing encouragement to both of them. Julia's major complaint was that her mom was never around and because of that she was raped by her brother's friend and when her mom was around her brother received all the attention which brings rage into her heart. So, seeing her mother make the effort in coming to see them is my hope the beginning of healing. So please keep the women's home in prayer for the many teens and now some children that have come in with their mothers!

Please also pray that God would give us all the wisdom and knowledge for all the major challenges that are going to come our way and that we may stay firm, without making exceptions to the Word of God! Again **we thank you from the bottom of our hearts** and **we thank you for keeping us all close to your hearts.**

Again we need a fifteen passenger van, hopefully 1997 or newer and in good running condition. Also, any other vehicles that can be used or sold in Mexico will be great to go in supporting the ministry.

In Christ,

Carlos, Rossy, and the team at La Roca

