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All Things Work Together

"It may be difficult to understand, but I believe that it wasn't just an accident that brought me here to talk to you. I believe that God set up our meeting in advance. I believe that He wanted me to be here with you to offer you a second chance"

Those were the words that I spoke on the inside of a municipal detention center to José*, a man who had let his isolation steer him into a string of bad choices which led him to drink and then drive his car off of the road as he made his way home from work. His

situation was grim, but the circumstances helped him see the need to reevaluate his life. After our talk, we prayed, and José accepted God's offer.

Our meeting wasn't a planned prison outreach. Actually, José and I were cellmates. On September 7th, our family was involved in an unfortunate accident with a motorcycle on the streets of Izamal, the site of a district-wide prayer meeting. Because there were three Mexicans injured and we were at fault, our vehicle was impounded, and I was forced to spend



33 hours in detention while our insurance company worked out the details.

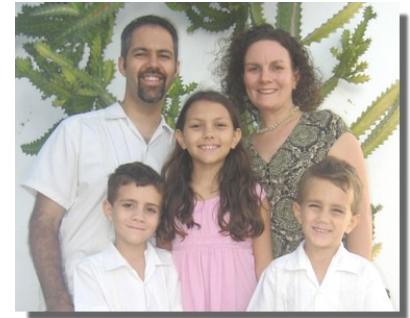
Still, although we experienced the trial of separation as a family and the uncertainty of the condition of the victims, we saw how God uses even the impossible situations to our benefit.

In addition to being His agents of reconciliation with José, we saw the Body of Christ in action as church members prayed, took care of our family, and served as our advocates in legal matters. On top of it all, God's hand was

upon the accident victims, who not only are expected to make a full recovery, but are also receiving the message and ministry of believers in Izamal.

Friends, while we admit that facing trials is never easy, we are humbled and excited to be used by God in whatever circumstance as He calls the lost to Himself and to minister among a people that hold such amazing potential. Thank you for investing in this fertile ground.

**The name has been changed.*



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get involved

We want to be involved in missions promotion at your church. To schedule us during our upcoming itineration,

- Write or e-mail us with two suggested dates during or after August of 2009
- We'll confirm your request with a telephone call or e-mail.

We are looking forward to partnering with you in 2009!

relate

September means back to school and another milestone for our



three. Jonathan is in kindergarten, Joseph is in second, and Rebekah has now entered fourth grade!

Ministry Outlook: Productive Times Ahead

As our time in Mérida has passed, our opportunities to minister have increased. In addition to invitations to preach and my ongoing ministry as a Bible school professor, we've seen other areas begin to take shape.

I participated as the keynote speaker at the Bible School opening service and have received an invitation to take part in a teaching role in the upcoming sectional conference seminars. Kelly as well has taken a more active role in teaching and preaching.

These expanded roles, in addition to key partnerships that we're creating



in evangelism and discipleship throughout the district, mean that this last year promises to be a productive one. Stay tuned!



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