## For Such a Time as This

"And who knows but that you have come to this royal position for such a time as this?" —Esther 4:14

These were the words of Mordecai when Esther balked at the responsibil-

ity to appear before the king in order to save her people. victim of fortunate "circumstances," Esther found herself in the right place at the right time in order to appeal to the king and change his heart toward the Jewish exiles living in the ancient empire of Persia. While we certainly don't find ourselves in a royal



position, we have been give a wonderful opportunity to effect positive change here in the Yucatán.

Two years ago, the district leadership was selecting a theme for the upcoming church leadership conferences. In those meetings, they decided to deal with stewardship. This fall, I was invited to develop a seminar on the biblical perspective of this theme. Of course, at that time there was no way to know that the world would fall into the current financial crisis. Nevertheless, I believe that as Esther found herself in the right place at the right time, these conferences

give us the opportunity to release our congregations from the oppression of increased debt during this time of financial uncertainty.

Currently, Mexico's consumer debt in default is up 53% from a year before, and at rates of 5% per month (60% a year) and up, it is easy to see that debt has a stranglehold on the

population.

Through these conferences, we will be partnering with district leaders to help people understand God's perspective on how we manage what He has given with the goal to lift their burden and free them to respond to His will for their lives.

Pray for us as we fine-tune the details. The conferences start January 10th!

# WMS2: Don't They Know Better?

Ancient Jewish believers talking to Gentiles? Barnabas calling together the leaders of the persecuted church to meet their fiercest enemy Saul? Didn't these people know better? Didn't they know that these things "just weren't done?"

They didn't, but what were the outcomes? The church spread around the world, and the Christian community acquired its greatest theologian.

In a similar vein, Chi Alpha, along with the A/G World Missions department, is calling together 6,000 youth to gather at the 2nd World Missions Summit in Cincinnati, Ohio from December 30-January 1. They are calling

them to give a year and pray about a lifetime of world missions service.

Don't they know that in a recession travel money is tight? Don't



they know that budgets are hard to raise? They do, but students are still planning to be a part, and so are we.

If history repeats itself, who would want to miss the results of meeting like that?



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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

The holiday season means chool Christmas festivals. Rebekah, Joseph and Jonathan just each



played a part—Jonathan as a snowman, and Rebekah and Joseph as singing villagers.

