

It Wasn't Supposed to Happen this Way!

...was all I could think as I wiped the perspiration from my brow. First, the rain came. Then, the projector wouldn't feed correctly, leaving us fumbling with yards of film to reel and an awkward silence to fill. Finally, the sound failed, bringing to an abrupt halt the event for which we had trained, planned, and prayed.

That was the scene at the first projection of the Jesus Film in the Maya language in Cocoyol, a village in Yucatán of approximately 800 people with absolutely no evangelical presence. We had entered that afternoon with the hope of presenting an unmistakable message of God's love, but we were forced to leave without having even shown the half of it. Still, before we left that night, we prayed. We laid our situation before the Lord, and we made the commitment to return, leaving the results in His hands.

In the following week, the team did return. Outfitted with new equip-



ment, they projected the film again. Even though we weren't physically present, we couldn't keep our minds off the event. I watched the clock as the minutes ticked by, waiting to send my text message until the activity was over. The reply came quickly back. "We're in our evaluation; we've been successful."

It wasn't until the following day that I was able to get the full picture. As we interviewed the Action Group members, we found that 23 people had prayed to receive Jesus as Lord and Savior! Even more encouraging is the fact that the Action Group is committed to seeing that these new believers are formed into a church.

It wasn't supposed to have happened the way that it did; we hadn't anticipated the setbacks, but as we celebrate the victory, I'm glad that we serve the One who "works all things together for our good." Pray with us as this new work takes root!

Providing a Solution

"How do I get rid of my vices?" were the words of the drunken man who had stumbled forward during my evangelism seminar. We had been working on a study about compassion, and I glanced around the room looking for someone to put in practice what we had been learning. No one budged.

"You can find help here." I said, as I prayed with him on the spot.

Turning to the pastor following the session, I asked him if there was any way for the man to receive help for his problems. He just shook his head and told me, "There is no way." I was devastated.



Now, three years later, a door is opening to bring help to the Yucatán. This month, Duane Henders of Global Teen Challenge will arrive to speak to District officials and to pastors committed to helping addicts find the road to freedom. It's our hope to resource these pastors and network churches so that they'll be able to say, "There's help. Let us show you the way."



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pray

We desperately need your prayers as we continue our ministry here in Mexico. Please pray:

- That the new churches being planted by the Jesus Film Project will flourish
- That our partnership with Global Teen Challenge will provide solutions for the growing problem of addiction.

relate

Our kids have a lot to smile about! Joseph won his class Spelling Bee, while Jonathan just celebrated his



9th birthday. Meanwhile, Rebekah looks forward to her 13th with the promise that it brings of opening her own Facebook account!