

Christ, Only Christ!

Proclaiming HIM Following HIM



December 2021

Christ Died For Me

In His love past understanding
Jesus gave His life for me,
Bore my sins in His own body
On the cross of Calvary.

Now on earth I'm but a pilgrim,
Traveling to my Home above,
Living daily for my Saviour,
Telling others of His love.

Waiting not till I should love Him,
Or till I should godly be,
But while I was yet a sinner
Jesus gave His life for me.

There is none too vile for pardon,
"Whosoever, hear Him say;
Him that cometh to the Saviour
He will never cast away,

Have you heard the wondrous story,
Heard it o'er and o'er each part,
Still you never have received Him,
Never given Him your heart?

Though we work for death, sin's wages,
Yet eternal life is free;
With the hand of faith receive it,
Trusting this, "Christ died for me."

- Barbara C. Ryberg

Christmas Program

Michael and Sofi did an amazing job of planning and organizing a reenactment of the angel's announcement to the shepherds, baby Jesus in the manger, Simeon praising the Lord in the temple and finally the scene of Jesus carrying the cross through the streets of Jerusalem.

The guests are led in small groups through each one of these scenes. Their guide uses each reenactment to share the Gospel with them. At the end the guests are served a delicious meal.

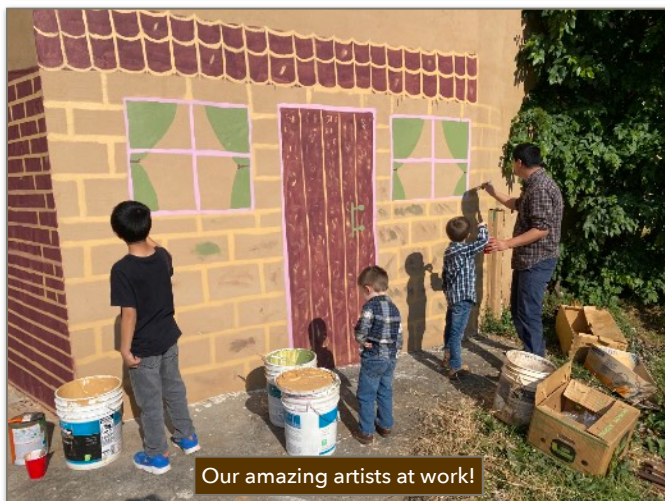
After everyone has finished eating, they move to the auditorium to watch a slide show that gives the Gospel once more and ends with an exhortation to personally respond to the message shared.



Regis (my brother-in-law) hanging Christmas lights



Making Jerusalem market



Our amazing artists at work!



Men from church building sheep fold



Making tamales



Mixing the champurrado



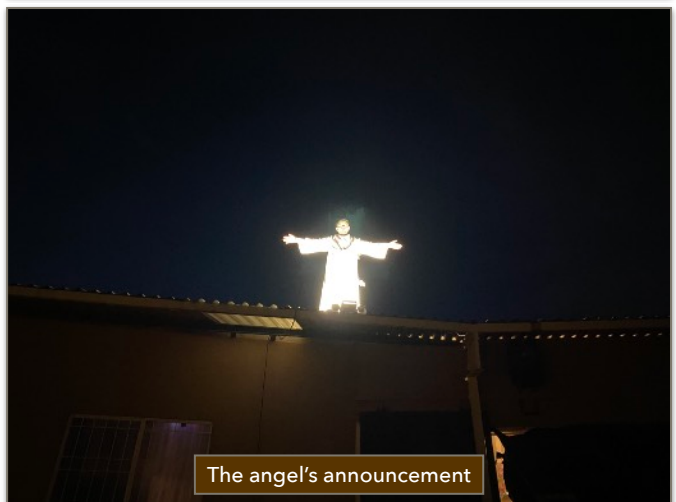
Salsa for tamales filling



Mixing corn meal for tamales



The shepherds



The angel's announcement



The manger scene



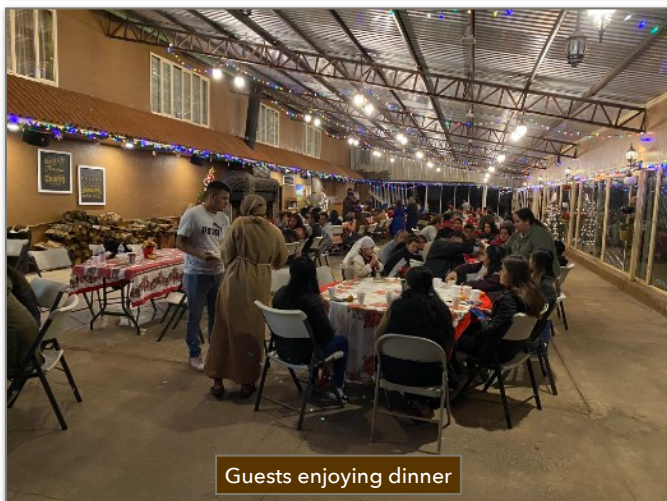
Jerusalem street/market



Simeon in the market



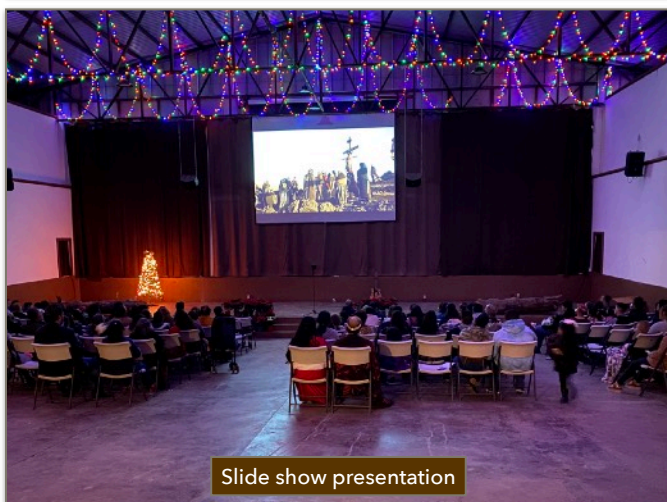
Romans leading Jesus through Jerusalem



Guests enjoying dinner



Serving dinner



Slide show presentation



Final exhortation

As you can imagine, a lot of work goes into these Christmas plays each year! But after seeing so many guests come we feel like it was well worth it! Just another reminder that our God is not slow about keeping his promise, but is patient, not wanting ANY to perish but all to come to repentance.

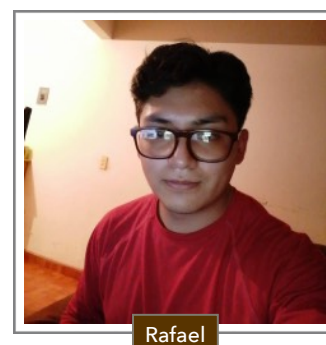
- *Wonderful Savior, don't let any who heard the Message forget it.*
- *Destroy the idols in whom these people are trusting.*
- *And may they trust in Christ alone, before it's too late. Amen.*

New (old) Bible Study

In the last update I mentioned that I was now teaching two Bible studies a week. The first one is with Guillermo a young man from Morelia. And the second Bible study is with Rafael—the civil engineer student I was studying with about two years ago.

About a month ago, he got ahold of me asking if we could start doing the Bible study again! Ever since Covid hit he returned to his hometown which is about three hours from where we live. But just recently he moved back into this area.

He continues to be very open and I'm looking forward to continuing the Bible study with him.



- *Dear Lord, protect Rafael from Satan's many lies.*
- *May he read Your Word every day.*
- *Use him to proclaim Christ to others as well. In Jesus name, amen.*

Audio Producciones Berea

I've started recording our first audio book and I'm already more than half way through. It's actually just a little booklet but I felt like it would be very beneficial.

You will probably remember that this is something that I've wanted to do for a long time. Most people in our area are just not readers. Unfortunately reading is seen by most of them as a hateful chore rather than an enjoyable and profitable investment.

Recording free audio books is one way we can help people overcome this unfortunate problem. Of course, all of the books we would record will focus on their spiritual growth.

- *Good Shepherd, may these books be listened to and shared with others.*
- *Lead us in recording the books that are most needed.*
- *Use these audio books to edify and build up Your church. Amen.*

What is Next?

I had hoped that 2022 would see the beginning of some great new adventure for me. (I would love to do evangelism and start a new work in some needy place.) However, there will definitely be some big changes for us (no discipleship program, Michael and Sofi's move to Ciudad Hidalgo) but it looks like my role and ministry will continue to be about the same.

I will continue living at the camp, supporting all of my parents ministries (camps, evangelistic outreaches, local church activities), teaching Bible studies and doing weekend ministries.

Though it's not what I would have chosen, I believe this new year will be a great adventure!

- *Heavenly Father, may Your priorities for us be our priorities in 2022.*
- *Help us be light and salt in this world.*
- *Fill us with Your love.*
- *And make us more like Christ, only Christ! Amen.*

As 2021 comes to an end I feel so grateful to each and every one of you who have supported me financially and/or in prayer. I am deeply indebted to you. Thank you!

I too pray for you—that you will grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ!

Happy New Year!

nathan,

Your brother in CHRIST!

- *MARANATHA!*