

SALVATION COMES ON A DIRT ROAD, COLONIA MONTE OLIMPICOS, TIJUANA, MEXICO.

Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved."

Acts 4:12 (NIV)

For several years we had a TLCCM bible club in a shanty town called Monte Olimpico, in Tijuana, Mexico. We had no building available to us and there was no Christian church in that area.

A very precious couple Alejandro and Obdulia Morales, graciously offered us to use their shack to teach and feed the children every Saturday morning.

It was a one room shack built on the side of a cliff. Their front door was about a meter from the dirt road. The kitchen was outside on the side of the house, with just a metal roof, no running water and no cupboards. A single lightbulb hung from a 2 x 4. All they had was just an old table and a few pots and pans.

But this beautiful couple loved the Lord and loved children. The neighborhood kids came faithfully every week. The children loved our program. They loved to sing and learn memory verses. Their enthusiasm was amazing. It was a very poor area, nevertheless one where we enjoyed spending time with the children.

At times, the one room shack could not contain all the kids attending. On those occasions, we would go outside and use the dirt road as our classroom. It was not a busy road but at times during our bible study we would have to move all the kids against the fence to let a car go through, then we resumed our position on the dirt road.

On one occasion, we had visitors from Ottawa. Monte Olimpico was one of the shantytowns we absolutely wanted them to experience. We had hot dogs and nachos because the kids had requested that specific menu the previous week. Once again, using the dirt road, we had our time of worship and our bible lesson. Afterwards, our visitors and a few moms helped us serve the kids and everyone was having a great time.

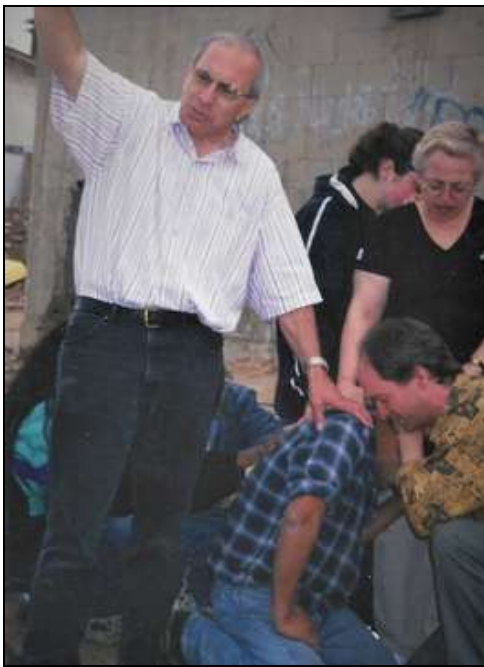


While feeding the kids, we saw an old red truck turn the corner onto the dirt road. Immediately Roger told the kids to

line up against the fence, so the vehicle could pass. But, the driver drove into the driveway of the house next door. The kids immediately proceeded to take over the street and continue to eat and play.

A few minutes later, the driver made his way toward us. He was obviously very drunk. Seeing that, Roger made his way towards the man, not knowing exactly what to expect. With help from the moms and visitors, I got the younger children inside the shack and moved the older children near the fence and away from the drunk.

Once, the kids were at a safe distance and being supervised by the helpers, I made my way towards Roger and his "new" friend.



In his drunken state, this poor man mistook Roger for a priest. Roger did not look like a priest, but he was a man of God. Even in his drunker stupor, the poor guy could feel something different about my husband. He asked what we were doing in this area. Roger told him that we came every week to teach the children about Jesus and also to feed them a meal.

Hearing this, the drunk immediately fell to his knees in front of Roger and asked for prayer. Roger motion me to join him, along with the team and some of the older children. We prayed for this poor drunk who was kneeling in the middle of the dirt road wanting God to help him.

Then, Roger lead him through the salvation prayer. To our complete amazement, our drunk had suddenly become stone sober. He sat in the middle of the dirt road and shared details of his life with Roger.

He had led a very rough life, starting to use drugs at a very young age. He had been a drug pusher and finally a drug cartel drug enforcer. But, after beating up some drug addicts and killing a few, he fled to Tijuana to get away from the lifestyle and the drug cartels. He was now working as a construction worker. He drank a lot to try to erase from his memory all he had done wrong until then. Roger reassured him that now Jesus had completely forgiven him. Starting on that day that he was also free of his past.

They stayed in the middle of the road talking for quite some time. Roger always had a lot of patience with hurting people.

Meanwhile, the children were in absolute awe that this man was now a Christian. They were also very excited to have participated in praying for this poor drunk.

After a while Roger brought him to me and I gave him a plate with a hot dog and nachos. Seeing this, one of the kids came forward and gave him a glass of punch. This is certainly one situation that the children, our visitors and myself will never forget.

It really does not matter who you are or where you are, Jesus is waiting for you and yes, He will meet you on "your" dirt road.

The following verses are from Steven Curtis Chapman's song: *Jesus will meet you there*.

"When you think you've hit the bottom, and the bottom gives way, and you fall into a darkness no words can explain and you don't know how you make it alive, **JESUS WILL MEET YOU THERE.** ***

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