


 The logo features the word "Son" in a stylized, cursive font, followed by "BEAMM" in large, bold, block letters. The background of the logo is a sunset over a desert landscape with mountains.

Proclaiming Jesus the Son of God to People on the Border of the United States and Mexico

Dear Friends,

Happy New Year! We trust that you all had a good day to celebrate God's blessing of the past year, and are looking forward with expectation of what He will do in and through you in the coming year.

In our last newsletter of December 31st, we asked you to pray for our team meeting that we were to have January 4-7, 2011, in Nogales, Sonora, to review the E4 Team concept and develop an implementation plan for these teams.

I wanted to report back to you as to how God has answered your prayers and ours during that meeting.

All-in-all, I believe that we had a fairly successful meeting, although we didn't end the meeting with as many concrete action plans as I had desired. It became apparent during our meeting that we needed to have more things defined than we already have, such as how we define the success of an E4 team, how many people must be part of an E4 team before it can begin work, and the various roles of those working within an E4 Team and those that are not at this time. We also need to work more on the cost of fielding an E4 team, not only in Mexico, but also in the U.S. We need to develop job descriptions, a recruiting and evaluation plan, and an educational plan for the E4's, and negotiables and non-negotiables. Certainly, we have a lot of work ahead of us to get E4's off the ground.

However, before that begins to sound too negative, I want to say that all of us on the BEAMM team are convinced that God is leading us in this direction. In fact, we work fairly well together as a team right now. To have nineteen men and women meet together and honestly wrestle with the issues at



The BEAMM Team

Front Row from left: Brenda Uc, Patti Ramos, Martha Mayo, Aaron Zapata, Gene Bowman

Second Row: Obed Uc, Charlie Davidson, Juan Antonio Garcia, Rodolfo Ramos, Ray Call, Dave Diaso, Josue Mayo, Carlos Cano, Dan Young, Gary Nantt, Rick Marooney, Jacinto Ordoñez, Jamie Burkemper, Manuel Padilla

Absent from the meeting: Juan Arjona, Tim Holliday, Erwin Lopez, Samuel Lopez, Julio Navarro, Morgan Roe

hand, but in an environment of harmony and brotherly love, truly is a testimony to God's grace to us as a team, and how well we all work together as a team.

Please be in prayer for Charlie Davidson and I as we work through these E4 issues with the rest of the team. Please pray that God would grant us wisdom, foresight, and the resources necessary to see E4 Teams become His reality here on the border, and that many would be prepared as leaders of His Church in the coming years.

Learn more about BEAMM E4 Teams by going to: www.beamm.org/e4.html

Stories From the Border ...

Nogales E4 Team



One of the benefits of getting the whole team together in Nogales last week was being able to see the future Nogales E4 Team “in its entirety.” While still lacking someone in the Administrator role, we were able to see this E4 Team taking shape. In addition to Obed Uc, Jacinto Ordoñez, and Rick Marooney, a new potential member of the team, Rodolfo Ramos, was able to join us for our meeting. Josue Mayo, BEAMM’s Central Regional Director, has been recruiting Rodolfo to join this E4 Team, and this was his first visit with us on the border. Certainly, both we and Rodolfo, and his wife Patti, need to evaluate each other more than we have up until now before the final decision is made for their joining our team.

So please be in prayer for this process, and also for God’s provision of a person to serve as the Nogales E4 Team Administrator.

GOD IS WORKING ...

From all of the news reports going out from the U.S./Mexico border these days, you would think that everyone is running for the hills to escape the increasing violence among the drug cartels. Yet just as God encouraged Elijah in I Kings 19 saying, “Yet I reserve seven thousand in Israel—all whose knees have not bowed down to Baal and whose mouths have not kissed him,” God is also working among the people of Juárez and bringing them to a saving knowledge of Himself. How do I know that? Well let me share with you two stories that I heard recently.

Frontera de Gracia

On December 19th, LuAnn and I visited the Frontera de Gracia Mission, pastored by Samuel and Zeny Lopez. After the service, Samuel and Zeny shared with us about a Christmas dinner that the mission had hosted in a nearby hotel. Here is their story, as told by Samuel:

Our Mission Christmas Dinner this year was very special. In past years, our Christmas dinners were organized by my wife and me, but this year, the brothers and sisters of the mission all got involved. They sent out the invitations, organized the food, the order of the activity, and the songs. The only thing that I had to do was bring the message. For the first time, Zeny and I didn’t feel the weight of doing everything ourselves. That evening, five people raised their hands to accept Christ as their Savior when I gave the invitation.

Also, one of our concerns as a mission has been having an adequate place to meet. We had been meeting in the second-floor of a nearby building, but because of drug dealers outside of that building harassing the members of the mission as they entered for worship, we decided to change locations. A member of the mission owns a body shop and offered it to the mission rent-free for Sunday worship services. While the shop was located outside of our target area, and had no heat, other than opening the front garage doors to let the heat of the sun in, it served us for about a year.

However, as we began looking for a location to have our Christmas party, we came across a five-star hotel

that had space. God touched the heart of the manager of the hotel, and he rented us a nice room, including tables and chairs, for \$125. In addition, he offered us a room to meet on Sunday mornings for our worship services for just \$40 per week. So beginning on January 9th, we are now worshipping in a nice warm room at that hotel. God has blessed our mission greatly!

I give thanks to God that He has not left us alone, and that we can see His hand working within the Mission. As we begin a new year, we are confident that our great God will continue blessing the activities that we do.

We give thanks to God for your prayers, friends and brothers. Thank you also for the financial help that you have given that has provided for the needs of some of the brothers. For all that God has given us, all I can say is, “Thank You!”



Stories, Continued ...

Promesa de Vida

Another encouraging report that I received during the meeting in Nogales was from Juan Antonio Garcia, Pastor of Promesa de Vida Church (PdV) in Juárez.

Last March, as we were new into the process of developing the E4 concept, LuAnn and I had the opportunity of traveling to St. Louis with Juan Antonio to speak at Kirk of the Hills Presbyterian Church. While we were there, I was talking with Juan Antonio about E4's and asked him how he thought



Promesa de Vida could become involved. He told me that, as a result of his reading the Good to Great book by Jim Collins, and hearing my presentation to the members of the Central Region of BEAMM in February, that he had begun to discover his personal "hedgehog," and that of PdV. As a result, he said that he has determined to better equip his elders and deacons of the church, and that all are in favor of planting another church in the area.

At our meeting in Nogales, Juan Antonio shared with me the need to go to two services at PdV because of increased growth and inadequate space for all to meet. He also told me that a few of the elders of PdV, who are in their third year of study at the San Pablo Seminary in Juárez, are planning to become part of PdV's own E4 Team that will start this new work. They are already well along in their planning, and have already given the name of Las Torres (The Towers) to this new work.

The really cool part of all of this is that Juan Antonio and the leadership of PdV have done this pretty much on their own, using the principles that they had been taught by BEAMM, the "BEAMM DNA" so to speak. Also cool is the fact that they are planning to start this new work using their own resources, rather than depending upon resources from elsewhere!

Isaiah 55 Deaf Ministries Video...

Isaiah 55 has just produced a really exciting video about their ministry. Why don't you check it out on the I55 page of the BEAMM website, www.beamm.org/i55.html ? It's a Vimeo video located about halfway down the page.

Follow Us on our Blog and on Facebook...

You can read these and other stories on the BEAMM blog and on the BEAMM Facebook page. Both are accessible from the home page of the BEAMM website, www.beamm.org.

PLEASE PRAY WITH US...

God has used stories like these to encourage us and to energize us. And He has used your prayers and your sacrificial giving to advance His work here on the border. We thank you so much for partnering with us!

Please continue to pray for both LuAnn and me, as well as our entire team, as we endeavor to serve our God faithfully, to see new leaders disciplined and prepared for ministry, to see the lost come to Christ, and to see God's Kingdom extended all along the border, and throughout the world.



To financially partner with Gene and LuAnn in this ministry, please send your gift to:

Mission to the World
P.O. Box 16284
Atlanta, Georgia 30368

(678) 823-0004 Fax (678) 823-0027

Account # 10589

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