

Christmas 2010

Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good news; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good news; lift it up, fear not; say to the cities of Judah, "Behold your God!" Behold, the Lord God comes with might, and his arm rules for him; behold, his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. He will tend his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms; he will carry them in his bosom, and gently lead those that are with young.

Isaiah 40:9-11 (ESV)

Isaiah's prophecy of Christ's coming to earth is often quoted this time of year as it reminds us that 700 years before Christ came, God was revealing His plan for salvation through Christ. God's plan was no "made-up-on-the-fly" type thing—prophecies of the Messiah go back to the book of Genesis, and Ephesians 1:4-5 declares Christ was the plan from the beginning. But look at this text in Isaiah: **"he will tend his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms; he will carry them in his bosom, and gently lead those that are with young."** Tend...gather...carry...lead. And then there are Christ's words in Mark 12:30 (ESV): **"And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength."** Heart...soul... mind, but also "with all your strength." Just like Isaiah's prophesy said He would do, the Lord calls *us* to serve Him in the here and now of our physical world in tangible ways. Our Christian life is not just a spiritual one—everything we *do* is part of it.

We bring you Christmas greetings this December and pray that your holidays are rich in Him, and that His tending, gathering, carrying, and leading will lead you to do the same in your part of His kingdom.

Merry Christmas, and thank you for your faithful prayers and support,

Morgan & Patti Roe

Stephen, John Morgan, Abigail, Julia, and Joshua



Casa Hogar Dibujando Una Sonrisa (Drawing a Smile) is an orphanage with about 50 children in east Tijuana. Until this fall, the dirt road out front was the play area. Marta, the director, was able to make a down payment on the home next door that provides a small



courtyard and carport for the children to play in. This is just one more step in the

transformation of her personal home into the orphanage it is today. She hopes one room of the new structure can be her private space, having given up her bedroom to make space for more bunks.

Each week, we visit and conduct a remedial instruction time for the children who need homework help. Unfortunately, the tutoring needs in just this one home would be a full-time job for a couple of people. Each week when we leave, we wonder how much our little bit will help. The hard thing is not being able to fix everything that needs "fixing." We do trust in the Lord that He will fix everything when He returns. That's something to rejoice in as we remember His first coming this Christmas season.



Timothy Training marches forward with another two-day seminar planned for early February 2011! You



may remember the essence of this training is to provide practical hands-on instruction and experience for pastors and church leaders. Last May's seminar covered visitation. In February, we will tackle stewardship. Each church develops their own plan of action to put in place over the coming months while incorporating and training other leaders and members. In Misión Monte Horeb, we have had two teams faithfully being trained each month as our pastor imparts the training he received in the May seminar. The teams invest the weeks between each session as a practicum to use what was learned. This has generated visitations to dozens of families, two new home-based study groups, and a youth worship service on Saturday evening to better connect with young people visited by the groups. Pray for this ongoing training process and pray for strong attendance in the February seminar.