

# Gleanings For The Hungry

A Ministry of Youth With A Mission

## DTS GRADUATION



The evening of February 28th was a big celebration for the 2013-2014 DTS teams. Earlier in the week the Colombia Outreach Team returned to finish their last few days at *Gleanings* with re-entry teaching and prayer. It was a sweet time of reunion as the Valley Outreach Team joined the Colombia team for the last few days of school. The days leading up to graduation were occupied with meal plans, decorations being purchased, and presentations created. A day before the big party parents and friends began arriving to greet the students. The big day arrived, bringing a huge rain shower. The dining hall was festively decorated in yellow, blue and red, the colors of the Colombian Flag. Smiling DTS students were talking to personal guests and preparing for skits, while staff members finished last minute



details. The night included performances, testimonies and words of blessings for the graduating class. It was touching to see the skits that were perfected during outreach and the new skits created. Tears were shed throughout the evening as we saw how God was bringing out the students' callings and preparing them to change the world. This team was very talented and gifted, reaching people through dramas and skits, working together and spurring each other on. The evening closed with the delivery of certificates. There was a glimpse of the great potential to lead extraordinary lives, on fire for God. We pray that the students will allow God to lead them wherever their next destination might be. God bless, and live those extraordinary lives you have been given.

"There is no fear in love; but perfect love casts out fear, because fear involves torment. But he who fears has not been made perfect in love. We love Him because He first loved us." -1 John 4:18,19



## Central Valley Outreach

The Central Valley outreach began with Jamie and Heidi traveling along the coast to Redding, San Francisco, and Pismo Beach to do ministering with different outreach teams. The different groups devoted most of their time to street evangelism. When Jamie and Heidi worked near *Gleanings* they dedicated many days to setting up prayer booths in front of grocery stores and at street corners. They were surprised at the positive individual response of people who asked for prayer. They saw healings, prayers being answered, changed lives and even times when God asked them to pray in faith and not see the results of their labor. These ladies ended their outreach on fire for God and inspired to continue working in the local community.

## Discipleship Training School 2014 - 2015

September 29, 2014 is the starting date for the next DTS here at *Gleanings*. Grow closer to God through 12 weeks of life-changing teaching and an eight week outreach. Experience first-hand the blessing of distributing *Gleanings'* food and sharing the love of Christ with the poor and needy. Applications can be obtained from our website or contact Cindy Meier, DTS Director, by email or phone. The Discipleship Training School is a multi-generational school and open to anyone who has graduated from high school.

# Colombia Outreach

Colombia outreach, an extremely rewarding and life-changing adventure, greatly impacted our team of 18 and the native people. The journey, quite diverse, included three extremely different locations and ministries. Colombian people we encountered were very open to the gospel, consistently desired prayer, invited us into their homes, and almost daily received salvation. Being unable to ship a container of food, we sought to accommodate specific needs.

Despite primitive living conditions, high humidity and fighting mosquitos, the Amazon jungle was a favorite location, with the privilege of living among the people in the village of Zaragoza. Local church ministry, visiting and praying with villagers, performing skits, and providing much-needed school supplies, brought God's love and warmed hearts for relationship. At other locations we provided the necessity of toothbrushes and toothpaste. Peru provided an experience of holding exotic animals and ministering to children through dramas and testimonies.

A Peruvian wedding was fun to attend, where Fritz blessed the couple, Amy performed a beautiful violin piece, and skits entertained the guests. Previous ministry there had been a program for village children and painting the church exterior. A ministry on the impoverished island of Tierra Bomba began with 12 children under a tree, but had grown to over 400 being discipled and fed weekly. Gleanings' heart was expressed through distribution of food, after our DTS ministered. Desiring to treat the children, cookies and apples were purchased and shared. The Amazon adventure encompassed two students being baptized in the river, making a public confession of dedication to Christ.

Cartagena, on the Caribbean coast, afforded the opportunity of ministering with Christians in Action. Active for Christ describes them accurately. The team participated in evangelical crusades, evangelized door-to-door, and ministered at church plants around the city, experiencing wonderful responses with healings and salvations. The culmination of this time was the joyful and rewarding baptism of two more students, and displaying the life-changing effect of DTS. Final location, the capital city of Bogota, is where the YWAM base Formando Vidas, or Children at Risk is located. Children from red light districts and dysfunctional homes are evangelized, discipled, taken into families, and adopted. "The Jungle", in close proximity to one such area, is a location where children are fed breakfast, spend time just playing, and are discipled. We had the privilege of spending two Saturdays at The Jungle with these children who rarely enjoy play like normal children, but often experience abuse

and neglect that God never intended for anyone. They soaked up the love of God given through His people. Religious barriers were destroyed as the team was invited to minister to nuns at the Sisters of the Sacred Heart convent. Many of the sisters are lepers and two leper facilities are nearby. Joy was evident on the outcast lepers' faces, as we visited and had programs at both the men's and women's facility. Many of the patients rarely have visitors, yet the team was greatly impacted by their choice to be happy and thankful despite deformed, withered hands and missing limbs. An invitation to return brought joy to the YWAM Bogota leaders, while the young ladies of our team were surprised by an invitation to join the convent. Everyone returned with changed hearts, eagerly waiting direction for the next step in their journey with God.



## Director's Corner

A few weeks ago thirteen students graduated from our DTS. As they left Gleanings we felt a sense of accomplishment and gratitude to God for a successful class and our participation. Every life has been impacted by the choice to spend five months seeking to know God more. One of our greatest privileges is to witness the power of Jesus and His impact when we put faith in His words and step out in what He calls us to do. Jesus is calling all of us. The message of His hope is, why not today? Why not believe that He will do a great thing in our presence today? Let's face the world with His words; there is nothing impossible for Him.

Have a great adventure with a limitless God,

Fritz Meier