



Renacimiento - September 2011 by Collins Roux

"Why do you still go to Mexico, with all the violence that's going on? Aren't you scared?"

Or, "there are so many places of poverty.....shouldn't you go somewhere that's more safe?"

These are questions I get all the time about my mission trips to Renacimiento, Mexico. It's very hard to put my answer into words, unless of course you have been privileged to be a part of one of the teams that has ministered to the people there over the last 3 years.

A third question I get is "What exactly do you do there?". Another hard question to answer with words that meaningfully describe the ministry done.

In reading from a book called The Ragamuffin Gospel, I came across a passage that summarizes a large part of what we do. Forgive me as I paraphrase. The author is talking about the importance of Jesus sharing a meal with the poor and sinners. He states how it is impossible to measure the impact that sharing a meal with these people has on them. That, by accepting them as friends and equals, He is taking away their shame. Sharing a meal with them showed them that they mattered and gave them a sense of dignity.

Please do not misunderstand me....I am not equating myself with Jesus. But I am saying that we have witnessed the same among the people in Mexico. By our repeated visits, our willingness to get dirty by loving on them, (and they are dirty), and to sit down and eat what they have prepared out of their meager resources speaks volumes about their worth - not only in our eyes but in Christ's eyes.

Because we have returned many times, we have built relationships (we are now on first name basis with) with many of them, which has led to their trust in us and our ability to then share the Gospel of Jesus with them.

-I consider it a privilege to be able to minister to them in many ways...physically, emotionally, and spiritually. And I will continue to go there as long as I feel that God is calling me there. Am I ever afraid? Yes, but God has shown Himself faithful and I will continue to seek His will in this endeavor. There will always be resistance to God's work, whether through funding or safety, to name a few. But as Christians we are to stay the course, trusting in the One who was, and is, and is to come.

To God be the Glory!