

The Nissen Family
Seattle. Washington
August 2025



Dear family and friends,

Welcome to the mission trip edition of our newsletter! We thought it would be fun for each of us to share our mission trip highlights. Testimonies were edited for clarity. Also, due to the sensitive nature of the locations Debbie, Isaac, and Moriah's team went to, they were not able to take a lot of pictures. They visited a women's rehab home twice, an orphanage for disabled children, an assisted living home for the elderly, and did street evangelism. Greg and Gabi's team were on a build site for 3 days and later visited a shelter for abused women and their children (also restricted as far as photos). All teams ministered at 5 different churches. A few of our mission team members, including Gabi and Isaac, got sick toward the end of the trip. Other than that difficulty, the entire trip went well, and we saw God move in people's hearts and lives.

"WE WILL TELL THE
NEXT GENERATION
THE PRAISEWORTHY
DEEDS OF THE LORD,
HIS POWER, AND THE
WONDERS HE HAS
DONE." - PSALM 78:4

Gabi-My team got to build a house for a family. I did a lot of painting and learned to use a power saw. I got to see my dad share the Gospel with some of the family. The kids in the family had T-shirts that they wanted us to sign and thumbprint for them, and they tried to teach me some Spanish. It was fun interacting with them. Also, it was cool seeing the house come together in 3 days. I feel like this trip gave me more boldness for the Lord.

Moriah-My highlights were that I gave words of encouragement to some of the women at the women's rehab center, and I made a bracelet for one of the women. I also made a bracelet for an elderly man named Victor at the assisted living place. At the orphanage for disabled children, I got to help feed a girl named Jasmine. She has to be kept tied (around the waist) to a wall because she'll run away. She loved hugs and was hugging everyone who came near. We also got to visit a church, and I gave my testimony there.

Isaac-The big highlight for me was watching God move on the entire trip. One example was the women's rehab center. It was an oppressive environment to walk into but watching God move there, despite how daunting it was, and just watching the joy on the women's faces, a real sense of God's love and care for them, was really cool. And the orphanage for disabled kids was a sad, somber environment, but we got to help kids who couldn't help themselves, and we also had a powerful worship session in a back bedroom, where we ministered to a 4-year-old boy who was deaf, blind, and bedfast. It was cool to see God move in that orphanage and to get to spend time with the kids who are overlooked in their society.

Debbie-For me, the mission trip was a learning experience: 1) learning to appreciate what I have after seeing the living conditions of the poorest of Mexicans, 2) learning to flex and roll when my team got assigned different outreaches than what we'd planned for, 3) learning to accept changes in plans when I had to stay behind a few times to be with someone sick or injured, 4) and most of all, learning that God always has a plan and a purpose! What stood out to me the most was the passion of our young people to serve without complaining no matter what they were faced with and also their boldness in conversing with people who didn't speak their language and sharing the Gospel with them. We had 3 young people on our team who only knew a little Spanish and didn't consider themselves fluent whatsoever; yet, because of their willing hearts, we watched a miracle happen when those 3 young people were suddenly conversing fluently in Spanish, to the point that we ended up with 4 interpreters on our team instead of just 1. They were very amazed when God used them that way!

Greg-This was my third short-term mission trip to Mexico since 1992. It was beyond amazing, to say the least, and YWAM does such a great job guiding teams in all kinds of different areas of ministry. From start to finish, the hand of the Lord was clearly visible in the work we were called to do in Ensenada, Mexico. Much of the trip's success came first through weeks of prayer prior to the trip. We prayed, God directed, and Satan was crushed! I spent much of my time, along with Gabriela, helping build a house for a needy family. The ministry that we worked with, which is part of YWAM, is called Homes of Hope. They average about 6 houses a week for needy families in Mexico. The condition of this family's old home was in very poor condition. It was made up of whatever pallets and material they could find and use. Through donations, enough was raised to build 3 houses for 3 families in Ensenada. For our build, the greatest part of the story wasn't that a family received a new home, but that 7 of the family members gave their lives to the Lord! Building a house is great! But preparing hearts for heaven by leading them to the Lord is simply phenomenal! When we finished building the house, and took the family shopping to help provide new furniture for them, each of our team spoke a blessing over the family and I concluded with praying over the family. Then we handed them the keys to their new castle, their new covering, their home! It was a very moving moment for all. Thank you to all who took the time to pray, give and help make this trip a great success for the Kingdom of God. Jesus was truly glorified in this trip!

2 Corinthians 5:17-20 "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here! 18 All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: 19 that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting people's sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. 20 We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God."

Many blessings,

The Nissen family

