



Christmas  
2008  
A note from  
Catherine

# Figueroa Family

## Missionaries to Oaxaca, Mexico

ASSEMBLY OF GOD WORLD MISSIONS



### PSALM 84:4-7

*Blessed are those who dwell in your house, they are ever praising you.  
Blessed are those whose strength is in you, who have set their hearts on pilgrimage.  
As they pass through the valley of Baca, they make it a place of springs; the autumn rains also  
cover it with pools. They go from strength to strength, till each appears in Zion.*



Psalm 84; The theme is “dwelling places.” We all need somewhere to be, a refuge, a nest to fly home to. Last year, Efrain and I spent our first Christmas ever with no family around. We shared a knowing look of melancholy as our kids, blissfully unaware, reveled in the joy of the moment. Deciding not to indulge in self-pity this year, November found me elbow deep in turkey preparations. How did I sneak 9 years of marriage without ever being the one to prepare the turkey? My

years of evasive tactics fell short as it fell on me to prepare a Thanksgiving dinner with adopted family our Mexican friends, who had no idea what it was all about. I found myself picking up the role of a first grade teacher again— gently unfolding the story of the pilgrims to a new audience. All through history there have been pilgrims— seekers, those under divine compulsion to travel. Jesus Himself shows us how to be an Extreme Pilgrim; laying aside the rights of Heaven for a time to be-

come the Son of Man. It is His model we follow. Love compels us to servant-hood, which usually means the painful mantle of humility that Christ demonstrated. So if you’re crossing continents or crossing the street, the portrait of the humble manger is our model. Psalms 84 reminds us that we are pilgrims here on earth, too. But we have a dwelling place— the sanctuary of praise where the Most High dwells. And that, my friends, is the Good News! Merry Christmas.

#### Please Pray for:

- ◆ Several Bible students who are ill, and two expectant mothers.
- ◆ Pray for God’s continued direction as we finish our first term here in Mexico.
- ◆ Pray for God’s blessing over our family and children as we balance ministry and family life.

See us at: [www.figmissions.com](http://www.figmissions.com) or search for Catherine on Facebook

email us at [efrain.figueroa@agmd.org](mailto:efrain.figueroa@agmd.org)

Donations can be sent to:

Assemblies of God World Missions

1441 Boonville Ave. Springfield, MO 65802

Account 2656940