



The Figueroa Family  
Missionaries to Mexico  
Review of 2005  
By Catherine Figueroa



Dear Friends and Family

We started out 2005 still adjusting to parenthood once again. Since then we've watched our newborn Olivia blossom into a toddler, walking at age 10 months. Efrain's mom and I witnessed her first steps together. The Lord has been so faithful this year. Jonathan had surgery in March to have his adenoids removed and ear tubes put in. The first two days of recovery for him were quite painful and I pretty much had to hold him the entire two days. I ached with my little boy who kept saying over and over, "I don't want to be choked, hold me!" in a little frog voice. I thanked God for his blessings as this surgery was somewhat minor, and how hard it would be for parents with a more seriously ill child. We're so thankful to Efrain's parents for extending their hospitality during this time and supporting us through Jonathan's ordeal.

David and Jonathan have also started Royal Rangers at "Church of the Redeemer" in Baldwin Park, CA. This church has been a wonderful blessing to us. David, what can I say, is sprouting to the sky. I started home-schooling him this year, which has been a real adventure. We are loving it. I can't think of many things I'd rather be doing than teaching my own little boy how to read. It's a joy, and of course a challenge with the three of them. How many people get to do what they really love?

I can't say everything has been easy. Being at a different church every Sunday is somewhat like being at a job interview every week. Except you have your kids with you, and therefore, the unpredictable. I've learned to relax to a certain extent through this process. The kids tend to sense when mommy's putting on "church" mode and react accordingly, (which means they act as goofy as they can.) The thing is, I'm outnumbered badly now when Efrain is at the pulpit. I kiss the feet of nursery workers and children's church teachers. I've observed that churches with ministry to children are the most relevant, growing, and thriving.

Efrain is accustomed to speaking at the pulpit, but it's rare for me. I was blessed to be able to share my testimony at my grandparent's church in Stallion Springs, CA. It's wonderful to know God can use our testimony to edify others, even when we are not the most polished. In a San Diego church, a woman came to the altar to accept Christ, and with my little Spanish speaking ability, we said the sinner's prayer together. It is a powerful motivator to be prepared to give a reason for the hope that we have. The Holy Spirit promises His Word will not return void. So while our delivery may not be perfect, we are called to be bearers of that powerful redemptive message. It is my prayer that everyone reading this letter can lead someone to Christ in 2006. (and yes, that we all lose that 20 pounds. :)

Sincerely

Catherine Figueroa



Look who's walking!



Bedtime



Hearty travelers

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