

A NICKEL FOR YOUR THOUGHTS

missions in Mexico



LIVING ON MISSION

it's an everyday thing

"No me entiendes bien, verdad?" she asked. ("You don't really understand me, do you?"). Ironically, I **did** understand **that** question, just not the previous one when she asked me if I wanted my hair textured with a certain type of fancy scissors. I was halfway through my haircut when my hairdresser and I began to chat. I explained that I was from Canada and was still learning Spanish. She asked me why I came to Mexico, so I told her that I'm a missionary and asked her what she believed about God. She mentioned church and the Virgin of Guadalupe. Then she asked what I believed, so I explained the gospel to her, and we talked a little bit more about what happens after we die, and then the haircut was over. Now, every time I walk past the hair salon, I pray and ask God for more opportunities to continue the conversation we started.

This week in class we learned about starting with what we have. God doesn't ask us to give what we don't have, but rather what we do. I had a haircut and gave God control of the conversation. Missions isn't just moving to another place and running children's programs or street evangelism. Missions is a mindset and a daily choice to surrender to God's direction in your life. As Christians, we can (and should!) be missionaries wherever we are, with whoever is around us.

MY ROLE

Currently I am a student in the SLMD, but that isn't my only responsibility. I often help with leading worship and children's ministry on Wednesdays. Once the SLMD is done, I will be more involved in leading training schools that we run on base. In January I will oversee the Music track of the Discipleship Training School, and also start a missions podcast!



We regularly worship and pray over our community and the world.

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SANTA MUERTE (THE HOLY DEATH)

religious context in Mexico

In Mexico, one of the idols that is worshipped is La Santa Muerte (The Holy Death). Containing elements of Catholicism mixed with Aztec religion, this god is worshipped as one who is accepting, particularly to people who feel rejected by the church. Their worship is not as much a fear of death as it is the embracing of it. With the high quantity of violence and fatalities in Mexico, many people have turned to this idol as a source of comfort. Watch [this video](#) for more information (also available on my website)



The nearest Sanctuary of the Holy Death is a 1 minute walk from our base.



The last time Bonnie and I were together in person (Jan 1, 2020)

UPDATE ON BONNIE

Bonnie (my girlfriend) also works in Mexico but COVID-19 forced her back home to Melbourne, Australia in May. Good news: she is finally able to leave Australia on Dec 8! Please pray that she stays safe and healthy during her travels!

GIVING

If God puts on your heart to financially support me, I'd love to chat with you! You can email me at mattnickelmusic@gmail.com

Pre-Authorized Payment **Credit Card** **e-Transfer** **Cheque**



For more information, please visit my [website](#).

PRAYER POINTS

- Pray for the many Mexicans who believe and worship false gods, that they would repent and follow Jesus.
- Praise God, Bonnie has a flight to Mexico! Pray that nothing would be cancelled and she will arrive safely
- Pray for our neighbour Lupe who runs the local Sanctuary of Death

Please check my website for more up-to-date prayer points.
www.mattnickelmusic.weebly.com

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