

Commissioning of the Guatemala Mission Team

P: Brothers and Sisters, siblings in Christ, we join in loving support as we commission our own who travel to Guatemala to share God's love in mission and support to God's children in that place. We ask that God may bless their journey, their ministry and their presence among the people whom they meet in Guatemala as they share and receive God's love in amazing ways.

A reading from Luke:

Jesus said to them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore, ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest. Go on your way; I am sending you out like lambs into the midst of wolves. Carry no purse, no bag, no sandals, and greet no one on the road. Whatever house you enter, first say, 'Peace to this house!' And if a person of peace is there, your peace will rest on that person, but if not, it will return to you. Remain in the same house, eating and drinking whatever they provide, for the laborer deserves to be paid. Do not move about from house to house. Whenever you enter a town and its people welcome you, eat what is set before you; cure the sick who are there, and say to them, 'The kingdom of God has come near to you.'

P: (To the Congregation) Members of Apostles, will you support your siblings in Christ as they undertake this mission to share God's love? Will you pray for them, hold them in your hearts and gladly receive them when they return to share their experiences?

C: We will.

P: (To those going on the mission trip) Fellow siblings in Christ, as you travel to Guatemala, will you endeavor to share the love of Christ? Will you open yourselves to the Holy Spirit's working through you to positively impact the lives of the people whom you encounter and to receive their love and ministry to you as they host you in their communities and homes?

M: We will.

P: Let us pray. Bless, O Lord, these your children as they journey to a distant place to share and receive your love. Strengthen the bonds they form with your beloved whom they meet along the way, and allow your presence to bring healing, wholeness, peace and joy to the communities and households in which relationships are formed and your love is made known. May they find your love and presence in the people they meet, and may your will be made known in all that takes place, in the name of your Son Jesus.

C: Amen.

Blessing of the Health Kits

(Congregational members are asked to hold a kit)

P: We now bless for God's gracious use the health kits our Apostles family members take with them to share in Guatemala. Let us pray. Bless, O Lord, these health kits and the hands which bear them so that through the giving and receiving of these kits and in the relationships formed your light may shine and your blessings may bring about greater healing, wholeness and joy in recipient and giver and bonds of Christian fellowship may be forged which honor you, in the name of the one who calls us into service and relationship, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.



Members of the Mission Team

CK, Donna and Chase Ambrose, Janet Gomez, Linda Hodges, Pete and Betsy Liljeberg, Chris Liljeberg, Cindy and Kevin Norgard, Barbara Runk, Luz Alvarez, Ramiro Calderon