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WHITE STONE MINISTRIES

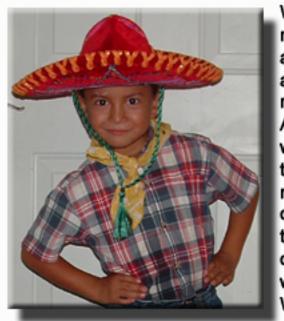


Greetings in the Name of the Lord Jesus!

We thank God for His love and His faithfulness to us. We are experiencing His care, His protection and His provision on a daily basis, and we are seeing tremendous changes in the lives of the children...Praise the Lord!



Sometimes when we feel a bit overworked and seem to be doing the same ole' things without really noticing progressive strides in the lives if the children, one of them will unexpectantly surprise you with something so pure and deep, it suddenly makes you realize how important the ever vigilant guidance and the day-to-day routines really are. We have our bible studies with the kids right before bedtime each evening. Usually our little guy, Gustavo, seems to be very bored with the lessons because we have a wide range of ages and it is a little difficult trying to keep the lessons relevant to all the ages in the group. So, most times, since Gustavo is the youngest, his 5 year old attention span is only about 5 minutes in length. Most of our interaction with him at lesson time is trying to keep him quiet so that the older kids can be ministered to, so we are concerned sometimes that he may be a bit left out. One evening, I asked one of the girls to pray at the end of the lesson, and Gustavo abruptly asked if he could pray. Well, I wasn't quite sure what that prayer was going to cover, but I felt that I should not quench his enthusiasm and if some corrections needed to be made I could do that after the prayer in a subtle way so as not to offend him.



WOW was I surprised! He prayed a mature prayer that would put some adults to shame. He thanked God for all his blessings, many of which he named...he asked God to bless both Anna & I and the rest of the staff as well as each one of the other kids. At the end he asked it all done in the name of Jesus. I was amazed at the depth of his prayer. So we thank God that He is doing a strong work in our children...even when we may not think we are getting through to them...His Word is!

Mike Figart & Donna Quarles of "The Hand of the Niño" dropped by to bring clothing and groceries. We thank them so much for their generosity and their genuine concern for the children.



ships with some of our children who had come from another children's home that has been closed down. They have stayed faithful to these children and we are grateful for their involvement with the children.





This month Gary Lankford and Daniel Villa of "Brother's Keeper Ministries" from Gulfport, Mississippi came by for a visit and blessed us with a freezer full of groceries. We thank these brothers for not only the food they blessed us with but their encouragement as well.

This month, Anna and I were blessed by Greg and Stacy Junkin of Northport, Alabama with a weeks stay at the Durango Mountain Resort outside Durango, Colorado. Coming from South Africa, Anna has not seen much snow so this was a real treat for her. Our hotel was just above the 10,000ft level and the scenery was amazing. This was our first time to get away ourselves for almost 2 years and it gave me a chance to show Anna a bit more of the U.S. that is in stark contrast to the South Texas/Mexico desert. THANK YOU GREG & STACY for a trip we will never forget!





At this moment, we are busily preparing for Christmas. We have put up the Christmas tree and decorated it with lots of lights and ornaments. We have hung lights outside and decorated all over the house. This Christmas Anna asked for a cross to be placed on the highest point of the house and it is covered with lights so it is visible for quite a distance. As you and your family prepare for Christmas, please do not forget that Jesus is THE reason for the season and He should occupy the highest point in our lives... high enough that He can be seen in us from quite a distance. Don't get so busy that you miss out on spending time with Him...after all,

it is His birthday we are celebrating. As we were preparing to put the cross up, we told the children why we were putting the cross up on the housetop. Gustavo walked over to the cross, hugged it, and said "hello God".



Hopefully you will not forget the orphans either. At this time of year, many folks are so focused upon buying the latest and greatest new gadgets and toys for the family and the home. In so doing, get into such a hard financial place that they are unable to consider the orphans and widows during this time. Last Christmas we experienced a serious shortfall in our support. The Lord saw us through it and even though some of our regular supporters did not continue their support during December and January for whatever reason, the Lord brought some new supporters to us. We have no doubt...He will always see us through, however, I bring this as a reminder that for all of us, if we ignore the commitments that we make, we put ourselves in a situation where God says that He is unable to bless us. So I encourage you...if you have made a commitment to the Lord to support our children,

please don't let the pressures of the season divert you from your commitment. I can promise you on the authority of God's Word...you will be blessed!



We want to wish you and your family the most joyous and happiest of Christmas seasons ever, and we also pray that your new year is abundantly prosperous!

Until next time...Blessings!

Dr. Ron + Anna Sherman



Thinking about Christmas...

Since we are drawing near to the Christmas Season, many start thinking about doing special things for the children. We are hearing from folks regarding ideas for Christmas gifts. If you or your group are thinking about sending presents to our kids, please check out the adjacent list for some ideas. In the past we have received items that we already have plenty of, or are just not practical for our kids. For example; many people like to bring stuffed animals to the children. Although stuffed animals are nice, we have large trash bags full of stuffed animals and the girls have a shelf about 15 feet long stacked high with animals as well as several animals on each bed...so please...we are stuffed with stuffed animals! (lol) So the adjacent list of items provides some suggestions that will bless the children and are practical as well.

Giff Items for the Entire Home

Sk ate boards
Riding Toys
Scooters
Wagons
Full-size bikes
Pedal & Push Toys
Legos
Erector sets
Foosball table
AA Batteries

Socoer Nets
Tetherball set
Jungle Gym set
Table tennis table/set
Trampoline
Rebounder
Punching bag/Heavy bag
Air Hockey table
Dart board

Children's Wish List

Play cars & trucks
Baby doll
Barbie doll
Remote control car
Star Wars Light Saber
Water pistols
Toy pistols
Tops
Purse

Paint-by-the-numbers
Colored felt tip pens
Perfume
Cologne
Purse
Craft beads
Video game console
Water goggles & flippers

We have a room that we are converting into an exercise/activity room. We want to put the children on an exercise program. If you have any exercise equipment that is unused and still in working condition, we would put it to good use and we would greatly appreciate it.

We have three house-moms and a maintenance man that we would like to bless also. They have been blessings to us and the children so we hope to bless them for Christmas. The ladies are all in their 30s-40s. So if God puts in on your heart to help us give them something special for Christmas please let us know.

Manto Coahuila Children's Home is operated by White Stone Ministries, Inc. White Stone is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization so all donations are tax deductible

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To our South African Family & Friends;

if you would like to become a financial partner with us, you can do so by making your donations to our South African bank account. Here are our banking details:

BANK:
ACCOUNT NAME:
ACCOUNT TYPE:
ACCOUNT NUMBER:
BRANCH CODE:
BRANCH:

NEDBANK A M SHERMAN CHEQUE 1737804670 173742 EASTGATE

Our "Wish List"

We are constantly being asked about our specific needs. We have found many times that folks have the desire to help us but they don't know if what they have can be of use to us, so I am listing some of the things that we need and if you have any of these items that you can help

Our "Projects List"

We have discovered that from time to time, church groups look for work projects to do with orphanages or other missions efforts. If you or you church group would like to invest some time, energy and expertise in helping us on our seemingly never-ending mission to make a

us with, please let us know. If you have some of the furniture or other bulky items and you don't live in the Del Rio area, let us know and we may be able to have these items picked up.

<u>Furniture</u>

Dressers

Small dining table & chairs

2 Arm chairs

Bookshelves

Desk

Kitchen Counter/Sink

Kitchen Cabinets

2 Cribs

Sleigh bed for toddlers

Household Items -

Couch covers (denim) — we have 3 used couches that are stained and we would like to cover them with denim covers

Toilet paper Paper towels

Large trash bags

Tall kitchen trash bags

Clorox

Liquid clothes detergent

Pinesol

Hair Conditioner

Deodorant

Hand lotion

Tampax Bean bag chairs

Smoke detectors

Fire extinguishers

Tools/Maintenance -

Cordless hammer drill Air compressor functional as well as beautiful home for the children, then please let us know and we can talk about scheduling a time that is convenient for your group to come. Also, we can even assist in securing very inexpensive overnight housing in a ministry compound close by. Below you will see some of the issues we need assistance with. Some are large projects and some are small. Some require the expertise of certain building/construction trades and others can be handled by anyone. There is something for everyone!

- Painting we have many places around the Home that need painting, both inside and outside
- > Secure outside stairs
- > Re-hang several doors
- > Tape & float & paint several unfinished walls
- > Build shelves in closets
- > Install burglar bars on new windows upstairs
- > Install kitchen plumbing & cabinets in cottage
- > Build closets/lockers in girl's room
- > Build large bathroom in girl'sbedroom
- > Install sink in laundry room
- > Build cover over sidewalk between house & laundry
- > Build cabinets in Kitchen
- > Install Light & Bell at front gate
- > Install facet outside laundry room
- > Move small buildings in rear of Home to the back fence line & install plumbing & elec. there are 5 small buildings that can be used to house groups or unwed mothers but they need to be moved and then hooked to utilities.
- > Build a playhouse
- Landscaping planting grass, flowers and hedges at the fences for privacy
- > Build a carport
- > Build shelves in workshop
- > Build several closets
- > Build shelves in computer room
- > Build island in kitchen