

## The Furniture Makers

by Rev. Héctor R. Pérez, with Gary Allen, Mexico

They are furniture makers living in a tent city on land loaned to them by the Mexican government. The tents serve both as their dwellings and their workshops. They moved to the Mexico City area because organized crime elements in their home state were charging them a “protection quota,” making it impossible to adequately care for their families.

These families of the indigenous group Tarascos or Purépechas live just a few miles from the House of Peace Free Methodist Church in Mexico City. Superintendent Rev. Héctor R. Pérez, along with missionary Gary Allen, tell of beginning cross-cultural ministry to this settlement of ethnic Michoacán.

We made acquaintance with the Michoacán in the summer of 2012 because one of the men made the kitchen cabinets for the “little house” on the church property. I asked the project supervisor if we could teach the Bible to their children. He agreed.

We began teaching them God’s Word each Saturday morning in the summer of 2013 with Bible stories, songs and handicraft projects. The children are learning to pray and already understand there is only one true God. Some of the children have been moved to receive Christ as their personal Savior.

Lately we have felt several adults are open to hear God’s Word. We are just starting a ministry of sharing Christian films with them.

For our first film we showed part of “Son of God,” the life story of Jesus. A number of children and about 10 adults were present. As the film ended one the ladies asked that Jesus’ Second Coming be explained. Because she was so insistent, Rev. Pérez began to explain while she excitedly translated the message to their ethnic language. The Lord touched hearts.

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