



NOV 2016 The Big Trip



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WWNTBM

Ortiz Family To Mexico

Happy Thanks-Living! It's been a busy few weeks for us, and we are sure it has been for you also! We hope you have enjoyed this time in the best of ways – with grateful hearts to God for His manifold blessings on your lives. Here is an update on our move to Mexico. Many of you will be reading this, even as it unfolds in a few days.

Regarding legalizing our van, we were starting to wonder if it would be worth the high price and hassle and considered some other options. We continued to get differing answers from everyone we contacted about being able to legalize it. Just a few days ago, while talking to a missionary friend at the border, I casually mentioned legalizing the van, and he informed me that later that evening he would have supper with a pastor who had just legalized his vehicle this month. I asked him if he would get more details from the pastor for me. Through this, we learned that we “haven’t got a chance” to legalize it anymore. We were thankful to finally have a clear answer from the Lord on that decision!

Our plan B (God’s plan A) – We prayed much about the possibility of selling this van here and buying a Mexican van. God has used my parents doing much searching for us in Mexico to match us with an excellent van for a good price and with fantastic mpg. We sent them the money to buy it this week, and it will have plates and be ready for use with just a couple days to spare. God is always on time!



**So here’s the total plan for Nov.25th-Dec.3rd
(as we know it, anyway):**

Friday – My brother Jaron (former truck driver) flies in to help us with the upcoming driving

Saturday – Final organizing and errands

Sunday – Our commissioning service and next-to-last meeting

Monday – Picking up the moving truck, packing it, getting naps, and driving overnight to Longview, TX

Tuesday – My family and Hannah’s brother (also missionary in Mx) start their drive up to the border to meet us with our van and my parents’

Wednesday – Our last meeting in Longview and driving through the night to Brownsville, TX

Thursday – (Hopefully!) Getting the vans to this side of the border to switch cargo over, returning the moving truck to Penske, selling our van to a friend at the border, and getting back across the border to stay the night

Friday – Accomplishing whatever doesn’t get done on Thursday and driving as far as possible into Mexico before sunset

Saturday – Finishing the drive to my parents’ house and recovering for Sunday services at their church

After all this is accomplished, we plan to be checking the towns in Los Altos again and looking for a house to begin renting. We also need to start Hannah’s residency paperwork as soon as possible. Lord willing, we could be moved into a house by January. It could also take a couple months, depending on His timing. Please, do pray that His will, will be clear to us and we would be obedient.

Praises

We have learned a lot on deputation.

We are at 98%.

God has always provided abundantly for us.

God has given us direction on the vehicle issue.

Prayer requests

Finishing deputation in a God honoring way

Protection for the long trips we are making

Getting settled quickly so we can begin to work