

ADVENTURES IN MISSIONS

VALERIE MOSES

JANUARY

The First Month of Mission Term!

The beginning of February signals the end of my first full month of classes in Mission Term. January has been an eventful month; full of life-lessons, wonderful people, and incredible experiences.

Mission Term officially began in the last few weeks of December. I returned from Christmas break to a very different kind of AIM. This term has easily been the most challenging and most rewarding of all of the class terms I've been in. It has been characterized by team building and community service, while learning about the mission field and my new teammates.

MISSION TERM HAS MADE ME EVEN MORE
EAGER TO GET TO MY FEILD AND START WORKING!

A WEEK IN MISSION TERM

This term has been much more relaxed academically than the rest of my time in AIM has been. The time that I used to spend studying is now taken up by teambuilding and community service. This term shifts the focus from personal study, to individual as well as team growth. It has been exiting to begin applying what we've been studying about in the real world. Some of our work as a team is starting to look like what we will hopefully be doing in Honduras in just a few short months.

Mission Term is unique, not only because of the academic

changes, but because of added restrictions. As a part of Mission Term Rules, I must use public transportation or walk everywhere I go, I must prepare all of my own meals, I cannot use the internet for anything other than homework & support, I may only use my cell phone to call people, and I cannot view entertainment media. These rules are put in place so that we can learn to exercise self-control and it is a helpful preparation for the actual field experience.



THE TEAM



IN MEXICO CITY...



Weekly Schedule

Monday:

8:30-9:30 Chapel with SIBI

9:30-12:00 "Missions" with Paul Dowel- we learn practical, real-life ways to apply what we have been taught to our ministry both in Lubbock and on the field.

1:00-2:00 "Evangelism" with Chris Swinford- we hear real-life experiences from the mission field and often go out into the community to practice what we have learned.

2:00-4:00 "New Testament Church" with Ray Young- we study 1 & 2 Timothy to understand the Biblical standard by which we should set our goals on the field.

Tuesday:

8:30-9:30 Chapel with SIBI

9:30-12:00 "Team Building" with Pat Sheaffer- we are taught effective and Godly ways to communicate and function as a ministry team.

Afternoon- "Team Evangelism"- my team and I go out into the community to try to make connections with people with the goal of sharing God's word. Team Honduras has been going to the 24 hr laundry mat and we have been able to talk to a number of people and are planning to start up a weekly bible study there.

Evening- "Team Building"- we meet as a team under the supervision of assistants and learn about one another as a team

Wednesday:

8:30-9:30 Chapel with SIBI

9:30-12:00 "Missions" with Paul Dowel

12:00-1:00 "AIM Brownbag Lunch"- we read letters written from AIMers on the field

1:00-2:00 "Evangelism" with Chris Swinford

2:00-4:00 "New Testament Church" with Ray Young

7:00-8:00 4th Grade Bible Class- I assist a teacher in the 4th Grade Wednesday night Bible Class

Thursday:

8:30-9:30 Chapel with SIBI

9:30-12:00 "Team Building" with Pat Sheaffer
Afternoon- Personal Growth Day- I take time alone to study, meditate, and pursue personal ministry areas

6:30-8:30 Small Group- I continue to go to my small group, next week I will be giving my second lesson!

Friday:

8:30-9:30 Chapel with SIBI

9:30-12 Class with Directors- The directors Kris Smith, Pat Sheaffer, and Cory Burns lead our Friday class

Afternoon- "Team Community Service"- My team and I will be reaching out to Senior Citizens in assisted living as well as shut-ins within the Church. We are very excited to begin working in the community.

Sunday: Area Church at Sunset- we attend services in the morning and with the youth group, and then we spend the afternoon with the youth who are participating in LTC. If there is a specific service-need in the Church we make ourselves available. We then spend the evenings in fellowship with a small group.

AS YOU CAN TELL WE ARE KEPT
PRETTY BUSY IN THIS TERM; BUT I
HAVE PERSONALLY FOUND THIS
PART OF THE TRAINING TO BE THE
MOST EXITING AND REWARDING.

SIBI 2016 Workshop

We were able to participate in the Sunset Workshop. It was truly remarkable to see how far-reaching Sunset's impact has been in the world around me.

I was able to attend some wonderful lectures as well as meet with a few friends and supporters. I was especially excited to see the Stewards from Marble Falls Church of Christ there at the Workshop!



It was at the Workshop that the teams were officially presented to Sunset. My teammates and I did our first flag presentation as a team. It was really cool to be able to walk down the aisles with our Honduran flag.

Camp Adventure

Later that week, prospective AIMers began arriving for "Camp Adventure Weekend". Camp Adventure is an event that AIM hosts to give young people an idea of what AIM is like. It has been a wonderful recruitment tool for AIM in the past and I know the kids really enjoy it.

Over the weekend, campers are assigned to AIMers and it's our job to feed and house them, as well as to look after them during the week.



I really enjoyed being able to spend time with these young people. And I know that some of them have made plans to come to AIM after they graduate!

Mexico City

The highlight of this month was being able to go on a week-long trip to Mexico City to visit missionaries Lalo and Jamie Rocha at the Pink House, as well as Princeton and Danni Palmer and the AIMers in Mexico. It was an incredible experience that I feel very blessed to have had.



I was able to bond with my teammates and class as a whole, as well as catch a glimpse of what AIMers on the field do on a weekly basis.

I worked with the AIMers in Mexico City by passing out flyers inviting Spanish-speakers to come to free English and ASL classes led by the missionaries. It was wonderful to get out into the community and meet people and try out my Spanish.



We worshipped with the "Iglesia de Cristo Metropolitana", they were such a loving and inviting church family and I would love to come back to visit them one day.



We also were able to go to an orphanage in the city and we visited with the kids and spent the day re-painting the building. It was incredible to meet those kids, they were truly beautiful, inside and out.



We spent some time sight-seeing as well; I was able to see some of the incredible sights of Mexico. I was able to see incredible monuments dedicated to the Catholic faith; it was awe-inspiring and sobering to see Cathedrals and the Basilica. This trip definitely has spurred me on in my desire to reach out to people in Latin countries.



All that being said I'd love to wish you all the best from Team Honduras!

Thank you all so very much for the faith you have shown in me. I am so excited to see what God has in store for me and my team, as well as how He intends to work through our relationship.

God Bless You all!!

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