



December twenty-fourth, brought to us a surprise and a thrill; the thrill of giving. We all know that is what Christmas is all about. God gave His only begotten son on Christmas Day.

We had just arrived from the mountain town of Guachochi where we had delivered Christmas gifts to the children at our Lily of the Valley extension. They were so thrilled and thankful. A few days after our arrival from Guachochi, Aunt Eva, our cook, arrived at the house breathless with excitement and filled with compassion. "Papa Ed," she cried, "We just ran into a nearby camp of twenty-five migrant workers and their children." "You won't believe it," she said, "they are all from Guachochi." In my mind I exclaimed with joy and compassion. "Lord we just went to Guachochi and now you've brought Guachochi to us." Aunt Eva said, "Papa Ed, we have extra bags of candy. Please let me take the extra candy to the children." I replied, "Certainly." When she returned, she said, "Papa Ed, they are so poor, migrant workers traveling from camp to camp throughout all of Mexico to pick the harvest, jam-packed with fifteen people in the back of a pickup truck with no protection from the snow or rain. They are living now in a crude shack with no running water and no heat with a meager salary, barely enough to survive. Plus, they go into work at three o'clock in the morning." She then dropped her head and said, "Papa Ed, please forgive me. I couldn't resist the temptation. I invited them all to Christmas Eve dinner tomorrow." I laughed out loud. "What do you mean forgive you? I think it's great that they can come."

It is our custom to decorate our home very nicely with Christmas decorations and we also decorate our tables very elegantly so that one day our children will do likewise when they have their own home, just like the example that they've learned at Lily. What a delight it was when our migrant worker friends came into the dining room. Their eyes were blazed wide open with wonder to see the beauty of our tables and our Christmas decorations. It was as if they were in another planet. We gave them the front seats not wanting to be like in the book of James where they gave the floor to the poor. The willingness of our children to give the two front tables to the migrant workers and their children was beautiful! Eating so little in the migrant worker's camp, they literally devoured our sumptuous Christmas banquet. Some of them came back for seconds, thirds, and fourths. They were experiencing heaven on earth. But that wasn't all. To their surprise, we had gifts not only for our own Lily children but also for them. Our children donated beautiful hand crochet hats and they were willing to give their hats to these sixteen children. They were so excited to receive wool-knitted caps because it was a cold night and they had no coats. One of our workers gave his jacket to one of the teenage boys. We would like for you to see pictures of the migrant children's happy faces with their gifts. We shared the Christmas message of salvation and

several accepted Jesus Christ as their savior. Jesus said in Luke 14:12-14, "When you give a luncheon or dinner, do not invite your friends, your brothers or relatives, or your rich neighbors; if you do, they may invite you back so you will be repaid. But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, and you will be blessed." At that Christmas Eve banquet, we were certainly blessed with joy to have the migrant workers and children with us. We have been doing follow-up visits with food, soccer balls, and piñatas and they are always joyful to see us. We invited them to our weekly Tuesday night prayer meetings.



Our friends temporary homes

We also want to share the good news and say thank you from the bottom of our hearts for your generous gifts for the construction of the Lily of the Valley extension in Guachochi. The businessmen association that is helping us gave us priority over ten other projects in order to start the construction the second week of January. They are looking to finish the construction in June. Through you God is reaching out to the poorest indigenous children of the mountains of Chihuahua. We want you to feel such a part of this project. Your heart and your finances are touching the lives of so many Indian children. Thank you for being God's extended hands to them.

It is our prayer that God will bless you incredibly, abundantly, and running over in 2014 so that you will be able give more and reach out to the needy children of Chihuahua.

Love,

Ed and Rosa Salo

How can you support us?

If you feel lead by the Lord to support this ministry, donations can be made to our San Diego office, marked Lirio Chihuahua or Lirio Guachochi. Thank you!

Lily of the Valley Orphanages
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Our Mission: Showing God's love as a Father to the fatherless, seeing children's lives changed by this love and then sending these children out to serve the rest of the world.

Because of God's love and the generosity of people like you, we have been able to reach out to hundreds of children, changing their lives, encouraging dreams and creating men and women of the Lord, with a future where they always strive for excellence.

Website: <http://www.lilyofthevalley2.org/>

Facebook: Lily Of The Valley Orphanage II

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