



THEME

Loving God by Loving Others - MEXICO

ANCHORED TO TRUTH

Luke 10:25-28, Luke 10:29-37, James 1:27, Hebrews 10:24

CONVERSATION

1. Has anyone been on a Missions Trip before?
 - a. Why do we go on Missions Trips?
 - b. What does God want to do for those we're visiting/serving?
 - c. What does God want to do in our hearts on a trip like that?
2. Has anyone been with Chi Alpha to Mexico before?
 - a. What was it like? What did you do while you were there?
 - b. Was anything challenging or difficult for you?
 - c. Did you learn anything on a past trip that better prepares you for the next one?
3. Take a look at: **Luke 10:25-29**

25 On one occasion an expert in the law stood up to test Jesus. "Teacher," he asked, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?" 26 "What is written in the Law?" he replied. "How do you read it?" 27 He answered, "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind"; and, 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' 28 "You have answered correctly," Jesus replied. "Do this and you will live." 29 But he wanted to justify himself, so he asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?"
4. How do we love God with all our Heart?
 - a. Soul?
 - b. Strength?
 - c. Mind?
5. Why would these be attached to "loving your neighbor as yourself"?
6. What does Jesus mean by, "Do this and you will live?"

CHI ALPHA MEXICO TRIP PREP

While in Mexico we'll have many opportunities to serve vulnerable + hurting people. Opportunities will include: A **Feeding Program** for underprivileged kids, A **Daycare Center** for vulnerable children, A **Shut-In Program** for disabled + critically ill people who struggle to get out of their home + care for themselves, A **Senior Citizens Program** for elderly people who've been abandoned, A **Girls Home** for orphaned young girls, A **Boys Home** for orphaned young boys, A **Street Outreach** in some of the poorest neighborhoods, A **Migrant Shelter** for refugees fleeing violence in Central America, and various **Building Projects** for families whose homes are in need of repair.

- **Ready To Serve With All Your Heart**
 - Ready to Serve with **Compassion** (literally means: suffer with)
 - Do we sometimes try to keep our hearts at a distance in situations where we're confronted with great need?
 - How can we prepare our hearts to be available, tender + vulnerable - ready to move toward those we have the chance to serve with compassion?

Do + Live (walking it out)

We'll have the opportunity to serve food to + engage with the kids in the **Feeding Program**, refugees in the **Migrant Shelter** and kids + families in underserved neighborhoods in the **Street Outreach**. We need to be ready to move with compassion toward them by serving, giving, listening to, playing with, delighting in, encouraging and praying for them. Compassion says, "I see you + I'm with you."

Ready To Serve With All Your Soul

- Ready to Serve with our **Spirit** (ways that are beyond our strength + capabilities)
 - When confronted with a need that's clearly beyond us (a sickness or disease, physical or mental disability, spiritual oppression, etc) how does that make you feel?
 - Why do we sometimes shrink back from those moments? Fear? Uncertainty?
 - How does God want us to respond?

Do + Live (walking it out)

We'll have the opportunity to be in the homes of 'Shut-In's' - people who have a disability or illness that prevents them from getting out + taking care of themselves. We'll be confronted with their poverty, illness or disability and overall need. We need to be ready to **listen** to their story, **encourage** them + **pray** for them. Encouraging (with our story/testimony) and Praying is generosity + service from our Spirit/Soul. This is what we have to give - leaning on the Spirit says, "We believe God is with you."

Ready To Serve With All Your Strength

- Ready to Serve with our **Hands + Feet**
 - When there's a lot of physical work that needs to be done - how do you usually respond? (i.e. it overwhelms/intimidates me - exhausts me - challenges me - motivates me - etc.)
 - Has someone ever helped you out with a big physical job that required a lot of energy + stamina? If so, how'd that affect you?
 - What can we do to prepare ourselves to work hard + push ourselves physically for people we don't even know?

Do + Live (walking it out)

We'll have the opportunity to serve families that have significant material needs. Our **Building Projects** will attempt to do what we can do in the time we have to alleviate some of their most pressing needs. Often this means fixing the roof of their home + helping to strengthen some of the physical structure of their house. This will require you to work hard. Be prepared to be tired, hungry, sunburnt, + physically extended. Giving the strength we have to give says, "I'll help you carry part of the load - you're not alone."

*If you're not on a building project you will need to give your strength in the area you're serving. Everything we do, from playing with the boys at Oasis, serving the kids at the Feeding Station, to carrying 50 lb bags of beans + rice to feed people in the streets will require serving with your hands + feet.

Ready To Serve With All Your Mind

- Ready to Serve with our **Thoughts, Attitude + Innovation**
 - The mental side of serving can be challenging - specifically: fluid + uncertain schedules, frustration in starting + completing tasks, problem solving without the tools we're used to, adapting to new + uncomfortable environments, difficulty with the language barrier, flexing to the cultural norms of our hosts, etc.
 - Which of these is most challenging for you?
 - What can you do to prepare your heart + mind so you're in the best posture to serve despite the challenge?
 - Sometimes when we're taxed mentally, we struggle to be as aware or thoughtful as we'd normally be. This can leave us unavailable to the very people we came to serve + encourage.

- How can we be aware, thoughtful + available to the people we're serving (especially the boys at the boys home) while we're tired + mentally taxed?
- When we're tired physically + pushed mentally (maybe frustrated, anxious or overwhelmed) it can affect our outlook + attitude.
 - What can we do to help one another maintain the right outlook + attitude while pushed mentally or emotionally?
 - Is there anything you can do to remind yourself *in the moment* to reach for the right attitude + outlook?

Do + Live (walking it out)

Innovation is seeing, adjusting + doing things in a new way. It's using your mind to see past old obstacles to a new, better solution. The need of those we're going to serve is big. We're always looking for new, better + more efficient ways to serve them. While in Mexico, could you be scanning for opportunities to innovate? Could you make room in your heart + mind for God-directed creativity, innovation + improvisation in the moment? Help us problem solve when it seems like it won't work or can't be done. Hebrews 10:24 says, "Let us **think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works.**" This is part of loving God with all our mind - helping one another help others.

WHAT WE CAN DO NOW

- Are there opportunities to serve in areas, mentioned above, that you're definitely drawn to?
 - How can you prepare to serve in those areas?
 - How should you be praying?
- Take some time to check out caringheartsmexico.org
 - Under **OUR WORK** Look over all their more detailed descriptions of the missions opportunities we've talked about
 - Under **SPONSORSHIP** check out the [BOYS](#), [GIRLS](#) + [FAMILIES](#) (most of the families listed here are the shut-ins we talked about)
 - Take some time to read their story + learn their names (at least the Boys + Girls - there's not that many + we'll be hanging out with them)
 - Pick one you'd commit to pray for leading up to our trip