

June 16, 2011



Everyone was excited when I arrived back in Puebla on June 3rd. Even Popocatepetl celebrated by erupting a cloud of ash 1½ miles high. I was glad it happened in the morning and not in the evening when I arrived. There was a little ash-fall in Puebla, but more went to the Mexico City side.

Somehow getting out of my car, which has lower seats than I was accustomed to, I twisted my left knee and tore the meniscus. Conservative treatment for two months didn't help much; so on April 15th I had arthroscopic surgery. Amazing what they do in outpatient surgery these days! Pris took me home with her for three days until I was off the crutches and able to fend for myself. She is living in her mother's home now. It was kind of nice being waited on J!

At the 6-week final checkup the knee was still quite swollen. The doctor was able to remove 50 ml of liquid, and the swelling went down a lot. He suggested I continue to wear the knee brace to keep pressure on the knee to keep it from swelling more. I did convince him that I could do the physical therapy in Puebla; so he gave me the okay to come down. I am now taking three 2-hour sessions a week at the hospital and then doing 1 hour 3 times a day at home. PT is hard work, and I usually end up taking a nap after the hospital sessions. But there is good improvement.

Finally, I think, we are getting close to publishing the revised primer, for which we have been waiting a long time. It seemed to get lost in the shuffle of going from one department to be checked to the next, discovered again, only to get lost another time. But it should be on its way to the printer this month. We hope to get it out to San Juan for the teachers to use before the new school year begins. Gabi is also using a computer printout with a couple of groups here in Puebla, using the primer the first half hour to help them learn to read Mixtec, then reading from the New Testament for the second half hour, which usually turns out to be much longer than that as they have many questions and comments. The participants are reading quite well now and really enjoy reading the New Testament.

One of the bilingual teachers from San Juan published a book about San Juan and gave Gabi a copy to look over and correct. He did a beautiful job, but some of the spelling needs to be corrected. So Gabi and I are checking it over. We look forward to the time when more Mixtecs will take responsibility for their language.

With Gabi's family and church responsibilities and her once-or-twice-a-month trips to San Juan and now my physical therapy, we are finding it hard to find uninterrupted time, but grab whatever opportunities we can.

We thank the Lord for you and your participation in getting God's Word to the Mixtecs in the language of their heart. May the Lord bless you wonderfully, as He does us, too.

Jan Turner (and Pris)