

¡Hola Todos! October 7, 2011  
¿Cómo están? I hope you're all well and getting back into things after summer! This month has been full of many different things for me...



Staff Retreat Classes

## STAFF RETREAT

At the beginning of the month, I joined the staff of YWAM Mazatlán for their annual staff retreat. This year we went up into the mountains near Guadalajara and stayed in a big log cabin! It was such a blessing to be able to, once again, reconnect with many of the staff on the base, as well as receive great teaching and participate in their corporate worship and game times. One of the main reasons I decided to join the base for this time is because, after a lot of prayer, I really feel that God is leading me back to YWAM Mazatlán and I'm actually going to lead next year's January DTS at the base. It was a hard decision to make, as I have so many different options in front of me, but this year has really shown me that there is so much more that I have to learn, and I want to be in a place where I can be disciplined more and learn and grow to a new level. So when Brent, the base director, invited me to come back and to actually lead DTS's I felt that that would be the best place for me to do just that--be disciplined and grow and take on new challenges. At the staff retreat, Brent



Staff Retreat Games

announced to the whole base that I'll be coming back at the end of the year and it was so nice seeing everyone's excitement and being able to start planning for this next step in my life. If any of you want to know more about how I made this decision, or what this is going to look like for me, please feel free to ask! I am very excited about going back and being in YWAM again!

## MEXICAN INDEPENDENCE DAY

September 16th is Mexico's Independence Day and this year I got to celebrate it 100% Mexican style! The biggest celebration is actually the night before. I went to the local city hall with one of my youth and his sister and her son. Every year they have a small fair with games and rollercoasters and a band; then at



Me and Gabrielito on Mexico's Independence Day

11pm the mayor gives "el grito" (or the shout), where everyone shouts "viva México" (long live Mexico) and they remember the people from their history who fought for the country's independence. Immediately after, everyone sprays silly string everywhere and they have a fireworks show. It was so much fun and significant for me, to celebrate this country's independence with just Mexicans and to be able to take part in their traditions! Mexico is now 201 years old!

## MY MEXICAN VISA

This is more a prayer request than anything else, I guess. Since April, I have been working on renewing my



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visa to be able to live in Mexico more permanently. This year the Mexican Immigration Offices changed their whole visa system, so between that and moving to a new city where I don't know the people who work in the immigration system, it has been a long and complicated process. This past week, I went in to check on the status of my visa and they're asking for more papers including an official letter explaining what I'm doing in the country. Since I'm leaving for home in 5 weeks and it takes 30 days to process a visa once everything is turned in, I am running out of time and having some difficulties getting the letters and paperwork I need to be able to get my visa. **PLEASE PRAY FOR FAVOR WITH THE IMMIGRATION OFFICE WORKERS, FOR ME TO BE ABLE TO GET ALL THE LETTERS IN ASAP, FOR THERE TO BE NO MORE PROBLEMS WITH THIS PROCESS, AND FOR ME TO BE ABLE TO GET MY VISA BEFORE LEAVING THE COUNTRY!** It is really important for me to get this figured out before leaving so I don't have any problems in the future being in this country or reapplying for my visa. I really appreciate all of your prayers!

## MORE PRAYER REQUESTS

- to be able to get everything out of these last few weeks I have here
- for wisdom in making this change back into YWAM Mazatlán
- for wisdom and the ability to start planning the Jan. DTS while here and at home

Thank you so much for all of your prayers and support!

Bendiciones, Rcv'd Sep. \$\_\_\_\_\_

Cassandra  
www.mcii.org/ywam