



CAM INTERNATIONAL

8625 La Prada Drive
Dallas, Texas 75228

Return Service Requested

**PRAYER MAIL
FROM WENDELL & DIANNE
MERRITT**

Non-profit Organization
Postage Paid
at Dallas, Texas
Permit No. 2650

- Good health and adjustment in a different culture and environment.
- Language school finished; now practicing with tutors.

Prayer

- Transition to our full-time ministry roles.
- Opportunities to deepen relationships.
- Effectiveness in Spanish communication.

In Dallas for the Holidays

We will be in the Dallas area for the end-of-year break and will stay at our home in Dallas. We arrive December 20 and depart January 11. We would love to visit and see many of you.

Contact Us

Web: www.wdmerritt.com

Phone: 011-502-5296-0560 (from U.S.)
214-349-4545 (Dec. 20 to Jan 11)

E-Mail: wendell@wdmerritt.com
wmerritt@email.caminternational.org
dianne@wdmerritt.com

We are praising God for you all,

Wendell and Dianne

One day in Antigua

It is very easy to become introspective, lonely and philosophical in a foreign land when everything is so different from what one has been used to, especially while adjusting to the culture and being without family and friends. The Lord made some impressions on me one afternoon as I was walking down the street in La Antigua, Guatemala feeling lonely and at the same time wondering what would be next after language school. As I walked along the cobblestone streets of this beautiful, quaint town with its ancient ruins, cascades of brilliant bougainvillea, I became more aware of the similarities and differences of the people I had observed or met or had conversations with during those initial months in Guatemala.



This day I passed a drunk in a doorway, walked past a beautiful yellow Catholic Church, observed young couples in the park involved in a very common practice here that I call "lip lock!" There were indigenous men and women dressed in brilliant colored handmade costumes typical of their village who were selling their wares along the streets. Two old women sat on the street with their hands out, perhaps wondering if they would be able to eat that day. I remembered the old blind man that I would occasionally see walking tienda to tienda with his plastic bowl asking for change. In a town that is dependent on tourism and language school students, there were also people from all over the world here to study Spanish. I began to try and look underneath the outer covering of the people I saw or had met.

A town that can be very romantic with its ancient beauty also is the home of starving men, women and children – abused and neglected women and children – alcoholics – those who practice witchcraft. My thoughts wandered:

...Life is not always pretty, romantic, convenient or without struggle.

...There is not always harmony within families, marriages,

relationships wherever you live – whether you know Christ or don't know Him.

...Things don't always smell good, look good, taste good, sound good.

...There are poor people, rich people, in-between people, barely existing people.

...There are people who are beautiful, ugly, average, physically deformed.

...Some are brilliant, intelligent, average, simple.

...Some are physically superior, average, disabled.

Yet in all this, we are God's creation, created in His image and for His glory. Everything created was created by Him. All mankind has the same basic needs, but not all have the same advantages and opportunities in life. Yet we are much the same whether we want to admit it or not.

Everyone has the need for love, food, shelter, and friendship. We all have a void in our lives that only Christ can fill. Whether we acknowledge Him or not, He exists, He died for us and is the only way to eternal life.

As we enter this holiday season, let us truly be thankful for what Christ has done for us. Let us not be so quick to pass by people but to look underneath their outer coverings and try to understand who they really are – someone created in God's image.



Giving thanks for what God has done

- Cameron our 2nd grandson was born June 24.
- A comfortable house that meets our requests of security and to provide hospitality.

