



Hundreds of people came forward to pray and receive salvation at the Festival de Vida in Rosarito Beach after the Saturday night message.



A family listens as Pastor Mike MacIntosh gives an invitation for people to come forward and receive Christ.



FESTIVAL DE VIDA

en Playas de Rosarito



Horizon Christian Fellowship's Pastor Mike MacIntosh gives the opening night's message at the Festival de Vida in Rosarito Beach.

Heading for the border to bring the Gospel to a resort town better known for drinking, surfing and the filming of the Titanic.

story and photos by Ed Compean

A crowd of thousands at the most recent Festival de Vida in Rosarito Beach, Mexico, sat in hushed silence as Pastor Mike MacIntosh shared how the death of a woman brought life to her family. "A Christian woman was hit by a car on the way to work, and the driver did not stop. Her body lay in the road for minutes before anyone did anything to help her. Tragically, she died. This afternoon I had the privilege of going with some of your pastors to her small and humble home on the outskirts of town."

As the crowd listened intently, Mike spoke of the woman who had been estranged from her son and granddaughter for years. Then, at one of the Festival of Life outreaches, she saw her granddaughter and was convicted of the part she had played in the years of misunderstanding. She reached down, embraced her granddaughter, and asked her family to forgive her. The very next day, her body lay lifeless by the side of the road.

Her sudden death was a crushing blow to her unsaved family. Her son realized the finality of never again seeing his mother on earth. When pastors arrived to minister, he accepted the invitation to know Christ and spend eternity, reunited as a family, in heaven.

Mike concluded the story by sharing, "This woman had to die so her son could be saved. In the same way, Jesus' death brings life for us."

Mike then gave an invitation, and 1,000 people came forward to receive Jesus as their Savior. Over the course of the Festival's three nights, over 2,500 people committed their lives to the Lord.

In celebration of the life Jesus Christ offers freely, this was Horizon Christian Fellowship of San Diego's 19th Festival de Vida. Over 1,000 believers from across the United States joined Horizon in reaching out to the



Judy Kooyers of Calvary Chapel Valley Center examined 16-month-old Joe Rodriguez at a medical outreach.

people of Rosarito Beach. Eighteen mini-festivals in different neighborhoods offered free meals, medical clinics, haircuts, music, and activities for children.

For Yvonne, a caterer, Festival de Vida was an opportunity to don a clown costume and share the Good News with kids. For Bridget, a dentist, it was a first-time experience cleaning the teeth of over 200 people. For Diane, an interior designer, it was a chance to walk the streets of Mexico distributing flyers for the evening event and tracts that shared the love of Jesus. And for Rachel, a teenage girl, it was the first time she was used to bring someone to the Lord—and she did it in Spanish.

Many of those who came to serve spoke little or no Spanish. Despite the language barriers, the love of Christ was shown



Javier Garcia has proper dental care explained and demonstrated by Dr. Bridget Hurst of Horizon Christian Fellowship at a medical outreach in La Mission.

For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will save it.

Luke 9:24



Horizon Christian Fellowship's Pastor Mike MacIntosh shakes hands with some of the people that came forward at an altar call following the second night of the Festival de Vida in Rosarito Beach.

through serving food, setting up chairs and bleachers, free sports and medical clinics, child evangelism, clowning, and street witnessing. As Mike shared at an evening event, "My Spanish is very little, but my heart for Mexico is very large." ☞

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Next Festival—Puerto Vallarta,
 Mexico—April 28-May 3, 2004



Former pro surfer Aaron Wonders, back, was part of a surf clinic outreach of the Festival de Vida at Rosarito Beach. Though this young man wiped out, several Mexican youth came to learn basic surf techniques and heard a Gospel message by Pastor Juan Domingo of Horizonte Ensenada.