

# ChiliPeppers

Christmas 2004, News from Mexico...

*"The Word became flesh, and made his dwelling among us. We have seen His glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth." Jn 1: 14*



Wise men still seek him.

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

About two thousand years ago God himself became flesh and visited us here on earth. While an entire nation was waiting for the coming of the Messiah, there were only a few who recognized him when he came, however the message he preached continues to reverberate around the World to this day. Those of us who follow him still—walking the disciple's path—becoming transformed into his image, incarnating his message, we proclaim peace and good news of happiness to the nations; Our God reigns, the savior of the World has come. The message that once startled the World, has the power to do so again...



Happy birthday! On Jan 14<sup>th</sup> Paloma will be seven years old. Last Fall she started the first grade at the Joseph Babinsky Institute, a small private school just three blocks from our home. As I interviewed her for this article she told me that her favorite subjects at school are, computer lab and physical education.

Paloma also enjoys trips to "La Loma," a local park that has a miniature train ride and a small zoo. The other day she was thrilled when one of the deer ate from her hand. An animal lover, like most kids (favorite animal= dolphin), she has a gold fish named "Laura" and a new turtle named "Bubbles"—two failed efforts to appease—as you may recall she has been praying faithfully for a puppy for several months.

The other day she announced to Sol and I that she had decided to ask Santa instead, since Christmas is only two months off, and Jesus seemed to be taking too long. Just another of the many challenges that face Christian parents living in a secular world. At what age is a child able to differentiate between an invisible God, giver of life, and a not so invisible Santa giver of dolls and puppies?

We had been waiting until we could have a home with a yard before getting a dog, but perhaps we just need to act in faith, and get the dog first. I think it's time to show up that fat old man for what he really is, a fanciful myth, that is not only powerless, but also stubbornly insistent on interfering with the nurture of child-like faith in our risen Lord.



Girl Wants Puppy



House Church Planting: Building communities of people so drawn to God that the differences among us become insignificant. We bind ourselves to one another in our common quest, our holy pilgrimage, with our eyes and hearts turned toward heaven and the New Jerusalem that awaits us.

Our most recent strategy—there's nothing new under the sun—is a Saturday morning children's Bible study and pancake breakfast. While requiring a long term perspective, child evangelism continues to be very effective, bearing fruit that lasts, and seems to multiply on its own.

With this latest addition, we now have three regular meetings in our home, as well as frequent Sunday barbeques. However the best of all are the things that happen between meetings, when we can model God's love by being a friend to listen, a shoulder to cry on, and an inspiration to pray.

Thank you for all your prayers and loving support.  
God Bless You, and Merry Christmas,

*Cody Sol and Paloma Smith*

"Train a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not turn from it." Pr 22: 6

Contact us: [russellcodysmith@cs.com](mailto:russellcodysmith@cs.com) Website: <http://www.walk-this-way.com> Phone: 011-52-321-214-6200  
If you would like to be part of our support team, send your check payable to ACI International to: ACI, Box 1769, Ontario, CA 91762-0769 USA. Please enclose a note "For the support of Cody and Sol Smith." — *Dios Te Bendiga.*