

THESE WORDS SHALL BE IN YOUR HEART

BY JOCABED GALLEGOS, FDC COORDINATOR

In August, approximately 45 women gathered in Juarez for the Voces de Cristo (Voices of Christ) conference. They focused on remembering God's call to their lives to serve each other, the church, the presbytery, the national church, and their community. Most of the attendees were from various churches throughout the Presbytery of Chihuahua, including women representing Gómez Palacio Durango and Agua Prieta.

The conference asked Pastor Jocabed Gallegos to make a presentation. Joca focused on the importance of service. She recalled, "it was a very beautiful and interesting time, especially when I talked about giving myself to others in service." As Joca shared some of the many ways in which she supported the Frontera de Cristo ministry, engaged with her community, and served her church, many had not been aware of the broad range of her work. She shared, "There were those who said, 'we didn't know that.'"

When you feel in your heart that call of God to your life, it is not to be something simply personal. Obviously, your relationship with God is personal, but your call is to be present in the community, in the struggles, and in the victories. Listen carefully to God's call, because if you have heard God's voice and felt God's presence in your life, it is not for you to be a spectator, but an actor.

Many times we need to be reminded of things that as human beings we tend to forget. Maybe it is repeated to us again and again until something finally remains in our minds. I do not know if you have played the game we know as "the broken phone." In this game there is a person who says a phrase and whispers in the ear of another person and then another until you reach the end of a row of people. The last person has to say the phrase out loud to see if the phrase was said in the right way; many times the message arrives completely different. That leads me to understand why, in the Bible, God says to his people, "I command you will repeat to your children, to the children of your children, and you will put it on the doors of your houses ... you will repeat and repeat, so that you do not forget."

Knowing about what happens beyond our comfort zone, daring to go beyond our personal borders, helps us to remember the great love of God, and to know how God asks us to live in that message that must be remembered day by day, not like the message of the broken phone, but with a truthful and permanent message.

*Love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your being, all your strength.
These words that I send you today will be upon your heart; and you will repeat them to your children. Talk about them when you are sitting around your house and when you are out, when you are lying down and when you are getting up. Bind them like a sign in your hand. Write them on your door frames and on the city gates. Deuteronomy 6:5-9.*

