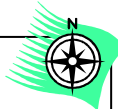




The Smith Connection

HOME ASSIGNMENT



- **What is home assignment?** Is it a vacation? Many times people, here in Mexico and in the US, have the wrong idea about what was formerly called "furlough" and now called home assignment. Here is what it is for us:

- **What is our purpose?** We recently attended a home assignment seminar put on by Toby and Marilyn Casteel, our member care couple. It was very helpful in guiding us to a better understanding of what home assignment should be, and what we can expect to feel, see, and experience during our time in the US. We also were able to develop a purpose and goals for this time which is summarized in the following words:

- ~ **Recharge:** to be plugged into spiritual and physical refreshment
- ~ **Sharpen:** to hone ministry skills through formal and/or informal education
- ~ **Expose:** to introduce the US country and culture to our children
- ~ **Involve:** to minister in our home church, Calvary Bible Church, Mount Joy, PA, and to be part of their activities
- ~ **Communicate:** to report what God has done and thank supporters for their part, and to share future vision
- ~ **Raise:** to increase our level of support (Financial, Prayer, Emotional, etc.)
- ~ **Connect:** to touch base with each individual supporter and extended family members

- **Prayer and praise** - We **praise** God that things are beginning to come together for this time: God has provided a place to live in PA, as well as a place to store our belongings in Mexico. More of the believers are getting involved in the church here in Mexico and taking on new responsibilities. Please **pray** that we might have a smooth transition in our ministry and as a family. **Pray** that we might accomplish all our goals and purposes.

- **Your input** - Please let us know if you would like us to minister to you and/or your church between August 2006 and June 2007. We are looking forward to seeing being involved with many of you.

Mexican Recipe

"Chicken Fajitas"

(Not real Mexican, but a Smith family favorite)

You will need:

- 3 boneless skinless chicken breasts (cut in strips)
- 1 large bottle of Italian dressing
- 1 large onion (sliced)
- 1 green pepper (de-seeded and sliced)
- Flour tortillas

Topping options:

- Shredded cheese (any kind)
- Sour cream
- Shredded lettuce
- Diced tomatoes
- Salsa (any kind, the hotter the better!)
- Avocados (peeled, de-seeded, and sliced or diced)
- Salt and pepper to taste

Marinate the chicken in enough Italian dressing to cover it over night, or at least a few hours. Add oil to a pan and fry the chicken with the onion and green pepper until everything is well cooked. Make tacos adding the desired toppings. Enjoy!



UPDATE

Family: We **thank** the Lord for the health and safety He has given to our family. Our daughter, Tara, did have an experience with her two front teeth recently. To read about this and other family updates and pictures, please visit our website: smithconnection.com. We also **thank** the Lord for recent opportunities for being with our extended family, and look forward to opportunities later this year. Please **pray** that we might all continue to grow in our love for the Lord with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength. Also **pray** for emotional stability as we look toward our home assignment, pack up our house, say our good byes here, and say our hellos in the US later this year.

Ministry: We **thank** the Lord for various ministry opportunities including continued discipleship studies, parenting classes, preaching, counseling and encouraging, leadership training, and youth activities. Please **pray** that we might be able to finish our ministry well in the next few months as we transition to home assignment. **Pray** that we might have wisdom in training and placing the believers in various ministries and church responsibilities that we have been fulfilling up until till now.



***Please drop us an e-mail if you currently do not receive our monthly e-mail prayer updates and would like to. Also visit our website at www.smithconnection.com**

Thankful for Your Prayers,
Bryan, Lori, Kendra, Tara, & Benjamin



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