

To Halmaack

This one had 25 Oct 1990 stamped on the back of the envelope. It arrived in Basking Ridge, NJ on Halloween, October 31, 1990

Dear Mom and Dad, (Poem on envelope: "Eggs are Yellow, Beans are Brown. I want some food from my home town." [hee hee hee]-- Thanks for the basket, Mom!)

Hello from Guatemala! Things are going very well here in Esquipulas. We're working very hard and the Lord has really blessed us with an absolutely golden family. Their names are Juan Ramon, Pastora, Maximino, Giovanni, and Narcy. We're marrying Juan and Pastora tomorrow, and afterwards we're going to baptize all five of them. It's going to be a wonderful experience.

I learned a new and very important thing last month. It is called: "the eye of faith." What the eye of faith really means is visualizing. One of my biggest problems as a missionary before was that I was always imagining all the disasters that could happen--and as a result they always did. Then one day, my companion Elder Sandoval and I were walking up a rather steep incline to visit with investigators in a small village called Tizaquin (Tees-a-keen), and he was telling me about something or other and mentioned how President Romney once wrote a large article about the "eye of faith."

I had seen and heard that phrase "eye of faith" many times and at times just allowed my eye to skip over it; other times, the question came to mind, "What does that mean?" But I'd never really bothered to find out.

So this time I asked him. I said: "Elder Sandoval, en realidad no tengo ningun idea de que significa la frase "ojo de fe" (Honestly, I have no idea what "eye of faith" means.) So, he explained it to me.

He said that one time in a conference of some sort, President Romney had put him on the spot, asking him, "Elder Sandoval, how do you use the 'eye of faith' with your investigators?" Thinking he was pretty smart, he said, "I imagine them all in white in the baptismal font." President Romney then turned to another and asked, "And you, Elder so-and-so, how do you use the eye of faith?" He said, "I imagine them being in a photo with them in front of the temple." One of the few times I think someone has gotten the scoop on Elder Sandoval.

So, anyway, I learned what the eye of faith is, and it has made a huge difference. Two days later, President Frishknecht held a zone conference in our area and spoke on the same topic. I honestly feel that one--the Lord wants me to know what it means to have faith--secondly, there's living proof Pres. Frishknecht is inspired. Whenever the Lord teaches me the same lesson twice like that, I know He's giving instruction or guidance.

How do I use the "eye of faith" in my work? Every time I make