

**Evangelist Rick Gage sees 4000 make commitments to Christ for salvation  
during the first GO TELL Crusade in Ciudad Juarez,  
one of the most dangerous cities in the world because of warring drug cartels.**

CIUDAD JUAREZ, MEXICO -- Around 20,000 attended the first Rick Gage GO TELL Crusade in Mexico Oct. 4-6 in Ciudad Juarez with a population of 1.7 million. Through this and other outreaches, 4000 commitments to Christ for salvation were made.

An international evangelist for 25 years, Gage said, "There is a lot of darkness in that part of the world, but God is raising up an army of His people right there in Juarez to turn their city back to God. Mexico is hungry for the Gospel, and these types of evangelistic events are wide open."

A native Texan, Gage said even the city's mayor agreed to help Gage with the crusade in any way possible. "A city that has been in the world news and labeled as one of the most dangerous cities in the world is seeing a move of God among the people of God," Gage said. "For many years, Christians have been planting the Gospel seed in Juarez and the timing for a great evangelistic harvest was now."

Gage and his team were involved in visits to orphanages (14 of 19 orphans were saved), local church meetings and street evangelism. During four pre-crusade youth rallies, 348 were saved. He also spoke to nearly 4000 students and teachers during a school assembly who were bussed into a 5000-seat basketball arena.

"The orphanage pastor praised us for coming to the orphanage and bringing gifts," Gage said. Then the pastor urged his congregation to go to the crusade, and two of his youths got saved.

"This is the biggest evangelistic campaign our ministry has ever tackled and one of the greatest evangelistic experiences God has allowed me to participate in," Gage said. Among many examples is that Gage led the newspaper reporter, who interviewed him, to the Lord.

Just across the border from El Paso, Texas, Ciudad Juarez is one of the most dangerous cities in the world because of combats among rival drug gangs, leading to 11,000 mostly drug-related murders since 2007 of mainly poor residents. They account for around 10 percent of Mexico's murders in the last six years. More than 1400 young people were killed in homicides during a four-year period. Between 2008 and 2010, the homicide rate of 15- to 17-year-olds tripled, including 15 teens massacred in Juarez in 2010. Sadly, the list goes on.

As recently as Sept. 22, 10 people, including a 6-year-old girl, were killed by two gunmen at a party in Loma Blanca, a small town east of Juarez. These murders allegedly occurred in retaliation for the July kidnapping of five people by one of the murder victims.

More than 30,000 youths in Mexico are involved in organized crime, involving the murder of thousands. Thousands of children also have been orphaned and thrown into extreme poverty.

Prayer, though, is the groundwork laid many months in advance. In the weeks leading up to the crusade, the prayer team met every Sunday night at the crusade open-air venue – the new X Plaza, a soccer stadium seating more than 100,000. One group of young people met at 4 a.m. daily. Amazingly, the X Plaza manager received Christ.

Volunteers from more than 300 evangelical churches helped with the crusade. "It is the first time all the churches from the various denominations agreed to work together in unity to impact their city for Christ," Gage said. Also beginning Sept. 28, volunteer missionaries came to Mexico to help the church volunteers with door-to-door invitations and street evangelism.

After receiving salvation, the leader of the Catholic youth movement in Juarez "was crying to see so many come to Christ," Gage added.

Also, before the crusade, Gage met with the Big Black Jaguars, one of the college football teams, and led the quarterback, Raul Parra, to Christ. He was among the survivors of the 2010 massacre by gang members who thought they were attacking rival gang members instead of innocent teens who had gathered for a birthday party. Two of his teammates were among those murdered, including the quarterback.

"God allowed me to lead the coach and the quarterback and 30 of the 35 football players to Christ. Also saved was the mother of one of the football players killed in that 2010 massacre, the head coach and the coach's father. The head coach gave his testimony on Sunday night," Gage recalled. "We also hope to try and meet the team's great need for equipment and uniforms."

The coach said that evening, "When they were building the X Plaza, I opposed it. They were spending so much money in this place when we didn't have money for schools or to feed the poor. I made a vow then to never set foot in this place, that is, until I gave my heart to Jesus. Then I had a big invitation I could not resist -- from God. I realize now that this venue wasn't built for concerts or political rallies but for this crusade so that many might come to know Christ."