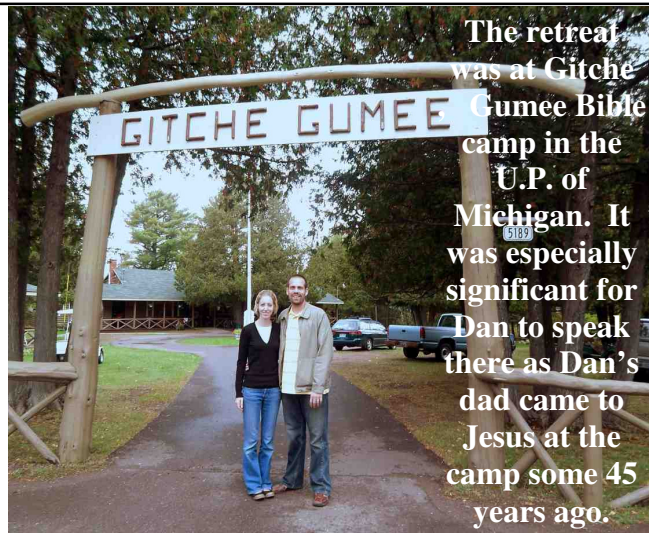




## A Line in the Sand

It has been two weeks for us now since we crossed the border and began our life again here in the states. We are experiencing some culture shock and feeling some of the uncertainty of what life will be like here. We are missing Mexico and friends that we made there but at the same time we are so enjoying being with family and seeing friends here. We've been truly blessed to have come back at this time of year too...to see all the colors of fall and be able to experience in a very unique Midwest way the joy and greatness of God's creation. Please keep us in your prayers as we continue to adjust here.

Being in Mexico was a time of great learning and really needing to rely upon the Lord in a special way. We wanted to somehow be able to share some of what God had taught us with others here in the states. So it was amazing to be able to speak at the Michigan Tech and Northern Michigan Fall Retreat. Dan spoke on seeking first the kingdom of God (Matthew 6:33) and seeing the kingdom as a treasure worth everything (Matthew 13:44). It was a good time of being able to challenge the students to look beyond the present and live in the light of eternity. DeAnn spoke on worry and how worry really is a sin (Matthew 6:25-33) and not just a "personality trait." This topic hit home with many of the students and you could tell that trusting God with everything was something very relevant.



The retreat was at Gitche Gumee Bible camp in the U.P. of Michigan. It was especially significant for Dan to speak there as Dan's dad came to Jesus at the camp some 45 years ago.

DeAnn speaking to the women at retreat



One comment that encouraged us from the retreat was this that was given to us on a note card as we left:

*"Thank you for joining us and leading us these past 2 days. This retreat will be one that I always look back on in times of need and hopelessness. This has changed my life. I made a line in the sand and took a step across."*

We felt as though God was answering our prayers by allowing us to share some of the things He taught us while in Mexico. It was great to see how these truths really do transcend cultures and languages.

### Prayer and Praise:

- 1) Praise God for his protection and provision during all of our travels and in this time of transition.
- 2) Praise God for allowing us to share some of what we learned in Mexico with students at the fall retreat.
- 3) Pray for the upcoming Madison fall retreat (Oct 12-14). This will be the first time for us connecting with the Madison students. Dan is going to be the main speaker at the retreat as well. Pray that God will use us in students' lives. Pray that it would be a great time of getting to know the Madison students!
- 4) With this transition comes a need to raise more financial support. Pray with us that God would provide abundantly.