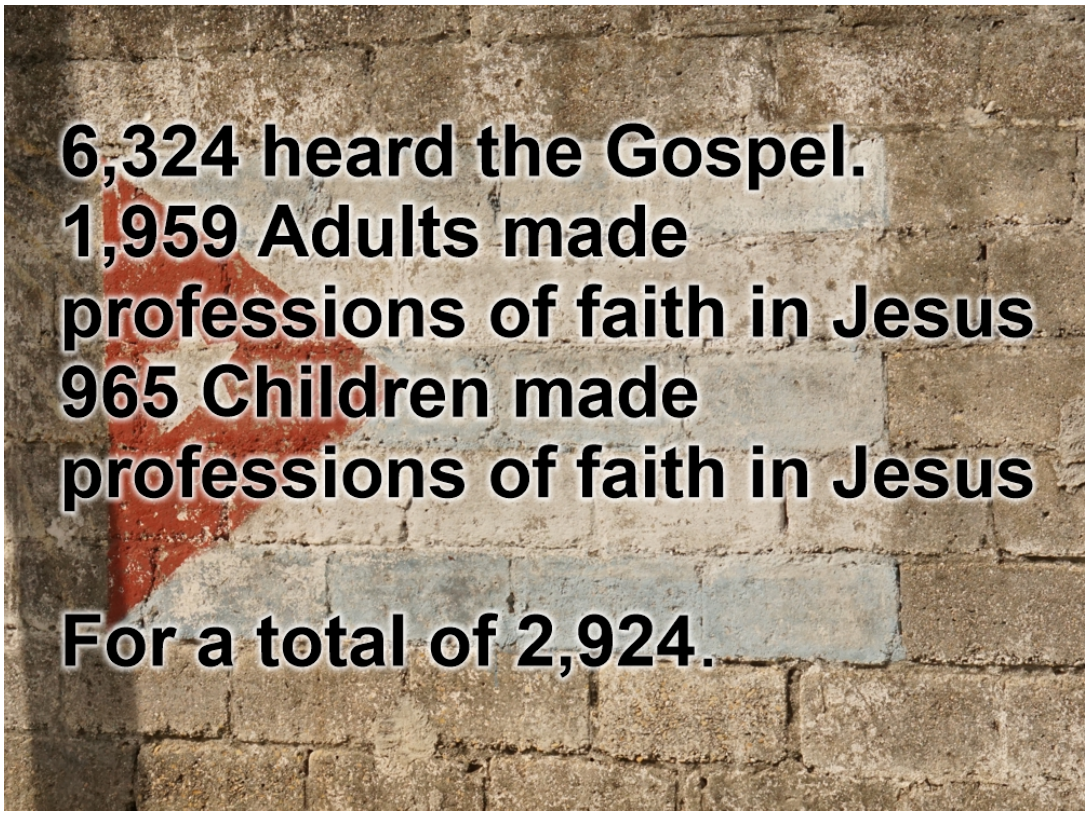
Cuba: Final Thoughts



Cuba was not what I expected it to be. My expectation had been formed by the media coverage. That was not accurate.

I expected to find a people who were beaten down by an oppressive economic system. A people that had a “pity poor me” attitude. Instead I found people who are resilient and have found ways to adapt to frequent blackouts and the challenging conditions of their country. Many had rechargeable batteries systems - not unlike what you would have in a solar power system - that would recharge when the power came on. There were more electric motorcycles than gas motorcycles.

I expected to find dire poverty. Instead I found a people who live on what they have. I found a people that spend very little time with their noses in a phone and that pay very little attention to world politics. Their attitude was not one of who is right and who is wrong, but one of "how do we make it work." I expected to find a people who would wanted to leave the country. Instead I found a people who are proud of their country and their heritage.

I expected to find a church that was slinking around in the shadows. Instead I found a church that is bold, unashamed, that is full of energy and is committed to sharing the gospel with everyone. I saw churches that have outgrown their facilities and are still growing. Churches that are planting more churches. I saw young people taking a stand for Jesus. I saw interpreters travel nine hours in a crowded taxi to be a part of this project.

Several years ago the State did not want the churches giving aid to those in need. The churches did anyway, they just did it inconspicuously. Now the state has approached the churches to help feed and give aid to the needy. Churches are working together and are now able to get permits for buildings. I found a church, led by young Cuban couples whose heart and passion is for the Lord and His work.

The church in Cuba is alive and well and on fire.

Project numbers:

12 North Americans were joined by 35 Cubans from other towns to work with 20 churches.

6,324 heard the Gospel.

1,959 Adults made professions of faith in Jesus

965 Children made professions of faith in Jesus

For a total of **2,924**.

We are honored and humbled to be a part of the harvest.

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