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VOB NEWS

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What would you reply, if you were told this story?

"I am 57 years old and I had lived in the US since my parents brought me there when I was 2 years old. I went to school and college and worked a career and paid taxes for over 30 years until the day I was deported recently. I have only been to Mexico once as a young boy and feel completely alone here. My wife, children, grandchildren, and new great grand child all live in the US."

This is a story we are often confronted with. Countless tales of men and women, who have been separated by their families in the US, because they were deported to Mexico for one reason or another. You may be thinking, "they should be deported if they have done something wrong". Perhaps, but what if they had not? We hear of many who were brought into the U.S. as infants or small children, who made honest choices and an honest living. But, due to a sudden immigration check at their place of employment, they find themselves on the first bus to the closest border (no matter where their actual birthplace). One young man we ministered to, explained to me that he was in his third year of college working an internship for the Forestry Service, when an immigration sweep changed his life for ever.

I recently talked with an elementary ESL teacher who, with tears in her eyes, shared her heart's burden for children of immigrant families living in our country. She explained how fearful and guarded they are, as they fear the fate of their family. I was encouraged that she was in a position to minister to the little ones on this side of the border, as I may be ministering to a member of their family on the other!

p.s. You may have heard about a recent plan of homeland security halting the deportation of undocumented immigrant children and young adults who meet certain criteria.



These immigrants had a dream for their children for a better life in America . . .



...much like these immigrants of today!

"...give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free, the wretched refuse ... send these to me!"

by Emma Lazarus, inscribed upon a plaque on the Statue of Liberty.