



# Whirlwind Missions

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Dressed in matching blue t-shirts, the FBC Jonesboro high school choir pulled out risers and set up PA equipment for the evening's concert, on the grassy corner of Pearl Lane Apartments and the street facing Chicken World. Hispanic men, with hands stuffed deep in pockets, paused on their way home from work, to see what all the white people were doing.

After gathering a crowd, I slid into a tiny, blue kid's chair among the children. "Mmmhmm!" Mrs. Julie, the blonde choir director, cleared her throat, raised her arms and with a swoop of movement 54 voices began to ring out praises to Jesus. The children seemed to really enjoy when the band beat out rhythm on big plastic and tin trash cans. Positive energy swirled around the whole area and the crowd grew larger with each clash of the trash can lids.

It was dark now and the skit was being performed. A young actress with curly, dark hair danced with a man dressed in robes as Jesus.

"OH! Is that Jesus?!" A little girl beside me turned around to ask. Her eyes beamed as if she was in the presence of a celebrity.

"Well, he's just an actor dressed like Jesus. Jesus is all around us, here and now. He's in my heart too. Is He in your heart?" I gestured to my heart.

"Umhum." She nodded.

The little girl looked back at the skit. Now new actors, dressed in black, dangled money, drugs, jewelry and death in front of the curly headed actress. She looked despondent and Jesus couldn't get to her.

The little girl looked back to me, her eyes on the verge of tears, "What's going on? I'm sad."

I explained to her that the world was stealing the girl away from Jesus with the offer of riches and fame.

Then the actress fell to her knees in prayer as the black ghosts danced around her. Pulling at her, laughing at her, beating her down. Triumphant, Jesus breaks through the demons, knocking them down! They fall defeated to the ground as Jesus lifts up the young actress tenderly by one hand.

The little girl looked back at me for an explanation. I tell her how the girl prayed to have Jesus come into her heart and save her from the evil.

"Oh! That's so good. I'm happy that Jesus came back. I'm happy to have Jesus here." She placed a hand over her heart.

What a powerful night celebrating Jesus! And it was special for me to be able to explain the skit to the young believer.

