

July 2011

Dear Prayer Warriors,

On our trip to Nicaragua this June, our friend from Arizona, Pam Palmer, joined Ann and me, as well as our son, Jacob. This was Jacob's first overseas mission trip, and he was a tremendous blessing to us and to the people. We went to Masaya, Nindiri, Las Flores, Las Velasques, and Matagalpa that week, and Ann and Pam conducted Women's Ministry and VBS while Jacob and I acted in supporting roles. At the church in Nindiri, while Ann and Pam were doing Women's Ministry and VBS, Jacob and I did manual labor for the church. We helped with paint, tile, cement blocks for their outhouse, and we dug a 5x5x5 pit to put refuse in and burn to keep the church property clean. We enjoyed our work in Nicaragua, and by the end of the week, 161 children and one lady had decided to put their trust in Christ alone, and one gentleman rededicated his life to Christ. God is Good!



As soon as we arrived in Nicaragua, Jacob met Francisco, our friend and translator. He looked at me and said, "In the first 5 minutes of meeting him, I could tell that Francisco is one of the most honest and humble men I'll ever meet." Francisco works hard for us, setting up our visits when we're in the country with minimal input from us. This trip we did things differently; instead of me training and speaking, the ladies did the majority of the speaking and VBS work, and Jacob and I supported them as needed and prayed for the women involved in women's ministry. Several pastors stayed within earshot to hear them discussing Esther and how a woman honors God by honoring her husband. The women were very responsive to the teaching. On the next trip, the ladies plan to teach on Ruth.

Church is run more with the pastor speaking and you listening. While the ladies were teaching, I explained to one of the pastors (and he loved it), that in the U.S., church service is where you get the "milk" as a believer. Bible study is where you get the "meat", where you really get into what the Bible has to say. The people like the idea of Bible Study but the problem is both the lack of people who know the Bible well enough to lead studies, and also the lack of Bibles. We spent about \$200 of our own funds to buy 100 Bibles for the people. If you would like to help provide Bibles to the people of Nicaragua, please use the enclosed donation slip.

We also reconnected with our friend Jamil, a Nicaraguan pastor that will be studying here in the U.S. for the next four years. He was accepted to Rio Grande Bible Institute, and through our prayer partners' efforts, he now has the funds to travel here for classes starting in early August. Thank you to everyone who helped make that happen! Also, please keep me (Robert) in prayer, for classes with Moody Bible Institute which start in late August for my Bachelors in Biblical Studies. This will enable me to be a better teacher to those in Nicaragua that want to hear God's Word. Jacob's reaction was not what you'd expect for a teenage boy. "I was humbled because of the hunger. As a growing teenage boy, I eat everything all the time. The food prices there are a lot cheaper there than here so I got to eat more than usual. Someone said to me that what I ate in one meal could feed his family for a week. I was humbled by their need for food and our blessing of living in America and not having to worry about our next meal."

As we've mentioned before, the harvest is very ripe in Nicaragua; if you would like to be a fellow harvester with us, please pray about it and let us know. We'd love to have you go with us and be a part of our Nicaraguan mission team!

In HIS Name,
[Robert and Ann Messier](#)