

# Notes from Nicaragua

August 2010



*The CrossWay International Team that went to Nicaragua this past June, along with Nicaraguan friends.*

**This June**, I traveled to Nicaragua with Robert Messier, our General Manager, and his wife, Ann. On our way, we met up with Allen Mann, Rich Mann, Adam Pavis, and Matt LaFon, all from Payson, AZ, and Bruce McIntosh from Glen Rock, PA. Our focus was on evangelism, and each team member played his or her role in accomplishing great fruit for the Kingdom!

On this trip, the number of salvation decisions was around 130. Many of these individuals were kids, as we had the opportunity to visit schools and share the gospel with them. Rich and Ann took charge of the children's events, and were greatly aided by Matt and Adam, two very open-hearted and helpful teenagers.



*Rafael translates for Rich at a Christian School.*

We used all kinds of evangelistic tools, crafts, and stories, and the kids responded enthusiastically with sincere hearts. What a blessing that is, since the main focus of CrossWay International is evangelism!

Our team members had their own special memories from the trip. Rich said, "During street evangelism, Francisco, one of our interpreters, and I led three young men to Christ. We also witnessed to others and gave out many tracts. It was a challenge to endure the heat and humidity at times, but it was worth it, because we knew that were spreading gospel seeds, and the Holy Spirit would do His work in His time."

Robert said of his experience, "I got to preach one Sunday with a translator at a small church in Matagalpa. Our translators told us that they got the most out of our trip as they were able to translate and hear from ALL of us at one point or another. It really made an impact on their lives."



*Robert getting mobbed by a group of Nicaraguan children!*



*Ann with new Nicaraguan friends (and Eddy on her shoulder).*

Ann also shares her favorite memory: "The highlight of my trip to Nicaragua was when I met Eddy, a 14-year-old boy. He explained to me through a translator that he was in a bad school, had bad friends, and wasn't going to church right now. I felt God tugging at my heart to give him a Spanish New Testament. Although he did not

trust in Christ alone that day, God gave us an opportunity to talk again, and this time he did trust in Christ alone for his salvation! I thank God for blessing me with this amazing experience!"

Please pray for all the new believers, and also for our return to this country. Merle Admire, a new missionary with CrossWay International, and I will be traveling back to Nicaragua this August. (See more details on this trip on the back of this newsletter.)



*Allen leads young people in a prayer of salvation.*

*Dean Chollar*

# Pastors' Conferences in Matagalpa and Sebaco

Even though my back started to go out, and I had a pinched nerve in my neck, I (Dean) was still able to teach 5 sessions and preach at various pastors' conferences in Nicaragua. The other men stepped up to handle the rest. Bruce McIntosh taught sessions on Christian Counseling, Allen Mann taught on Bibliology, and Robert Messier, our General Manager, was recruited to preach at a local church. Rafa Rivas, our Field Director for Central America, did a great job lining all this up, even though he had just gotten married 10 days before we arrived! Rafa and Francisco Caldera were our interpreters, and they played a critical role in



*Team members prepare for the Pastors Conference.*

making the teaching and gospel clear.

success! It was a great time of seeing the Body of Christ in action, and God blessed us with much fruit. And it is through the continued faithfulness of our ministry partners that we are able to continue these outreaches. We feel just as Paul did in Philippians:



*Francisco translates for Bruce.*

The unity and team spirit on this trip, with the involvement of so many gifted and godly people, was really what made this trip such a

*"I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now..."*

## School Supplies Needed for Nicaragua

As I mentioned on the first page, Merle and I leave for Nicaragua on August 10-16. We are hoping to take a number of large suitcases filled with Spanish Bibles and school supplies for desperately poor children in the Matagalpa area (the Oasis Christian School). These kids have practically nothing, and as we have done in Sudan and other parts of the world, we try to meet these needs, use it as a means of evangelism, and encourage the believers.

We hope to make a number of trips to Nicaragua, since it is becoming another special focus of our ministry. If you would like to help provide Bibles and school supplies for many of the children in Nicaragua who have so little, please send them to our office in Boerne, TX. They need such school supplies as pens, paper, rulers, scissors, etc.

Thank you again for your partnership and our ministry together.



*Dean teaches at a Christian School.*

*"Defend the cause of the weak and fatherless; maintain the rights of the poor and oppressed."  
Psalm 82:3*

# Kenya Dig It, Baby?

No, we haven't gone hippie on you, but we *are* digging wells! Water is such a critical part of life. For most of us, it is so easily obtained; we turn on the faucet and clean water comes out. But in so many parts of the world, clean water is not available unless wells are drilled. We consider it a privilege to drill wells in these countries and share clean water with those who have none. This also allows us to share with them the Living Water, our Lord Jesus Christ.

Our new division here at CrossWay International, CrossWay Water for Life, has been busy with our new drilling rig--having it made, making sure it works, and getting it



shipped to Kenya to begin drilling wells. Our news about the drilling rig even made the local news! The Boerne Star wrote an article about our rig.



**"Our motto is 'Drill, baby drill,'" Chollar said.**

To read this article, please visit our website at [www.gocrossway.org](http://www.gocrossway.org) and click on *What's New*, then scroll down to *CrossWay Water for Life in the News*.

## An Aggie in Meki



Melaku Abebe, CrossWay Ethiopia Field Director, and Kyle Parsons.

Kyle Parsons, a young man who graduated this spring from Texas A&M, just returned home from 6 weeks in Meki, Ethiopia. He traveled there to assist our Ethiopian Field Director, Melaku Abebe, with the Medical Clinic. He also taught English classes, shared Scripture in a local church, and even worked with Melaku to establish a program to help raise funds to send underprivileged children to school. Kyle has been an incredible help to Melaku, and has demonstrated such a heart for the people and a willingness to help wherever needed. Kyle says of his trip, "I am so humbled to have had the opportunity to do the Lord's work in Ethiopia. It was an incredible six weeks. God is doing some amazing things over there."



Left: Working at the Medical Clinic in Meki, Ethiopia.

Below: New friends embrace the Texas Aggie!



To read more about Kyle's trip, check out his blog: <http://www.kylparsons.blogspot.com/>

## Changing Buckets

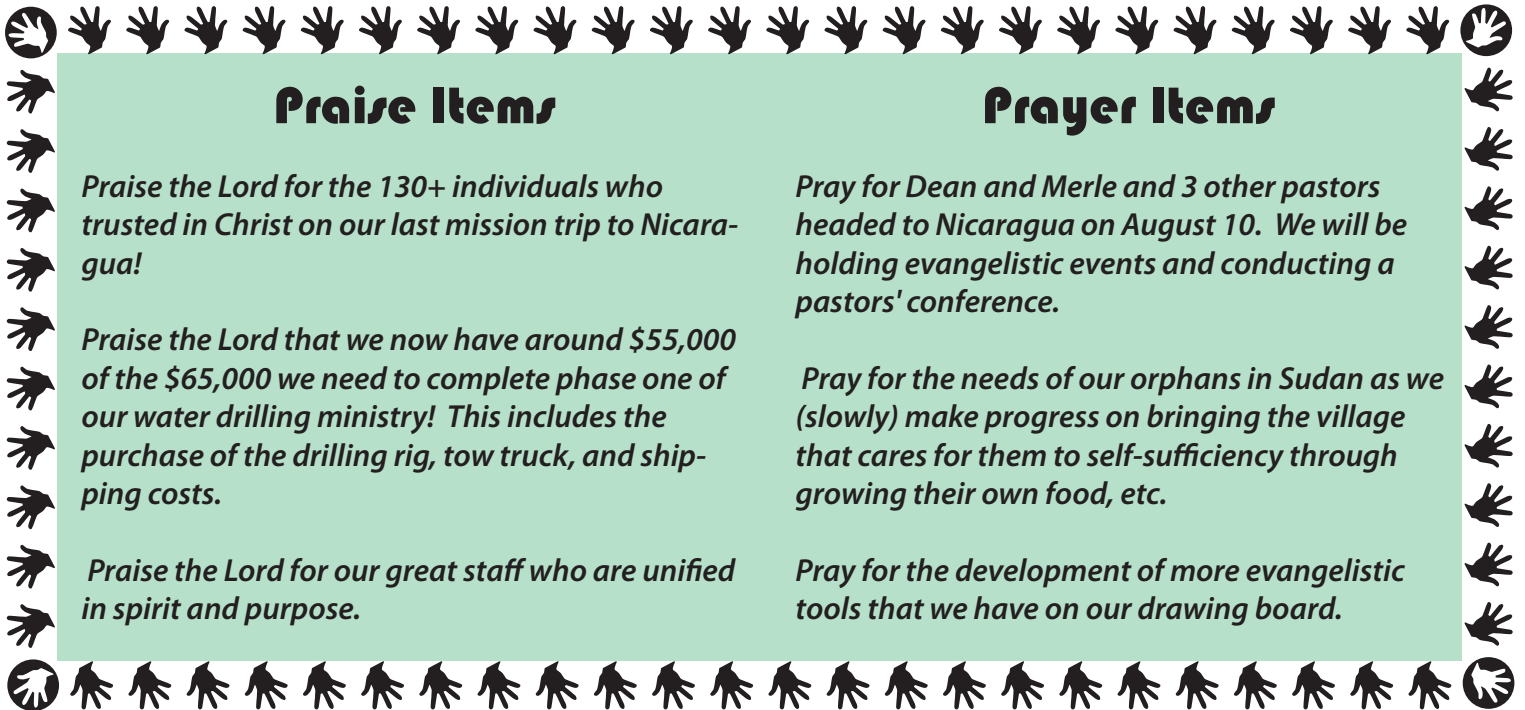


*Merle's new bucket!*

Life has its transitions! Merle Admire, Missionary with CrossWay International, shared with me a story about his dog, Scout. Scout loves to play with an old, beat-up bottomless rubber bucket. Merle decided to buy him a new one. Scout played with it for a bit, and then went back to his old, familiar rubber bucket. Merle said this illustrated for him the difficulty he himself is facing in moving from the familiar to the unfamiliar. Please pray for Merle as he continues his transition from full-time Master Electrician to a very valued co-worker and missionary at CrossWay International.



This August, Merle and I will be traveling to Nicaragua to participate in a Pastors Conference and investigate water well drilling opportunities, which we can use for our evangelistic efforts. This will be Merle's first trip to Nicaragua, and my third. Please pray for us, that God will lead and direct us in all that we do, and that we might have many opportunities to share the gospel of grace while there.



<b>Praise Items</b>	<b>Prayer Items</b>
<p><i>Praise the Lord for the 130+ individuals who trusted in Christ on our last mission trip to Nicaragua!</i></p>	<p><i>Pray for Dean and Merle and 3 other pastors headed to Nicaragua on August 10. We will be holding evangelistic events and conducting a pastors' conference.</i></p>
<p><i>Praise the Lord that we now have around \$55,000 of the \$65,000 we need to complete phase one of our water drilling ministry! This includes the purchase of the drilling rig, tow truck, and shipping costs.</i></p>	<p><i>Pray for the needs of our orphans in Sudan as we (slowly) make progress on bringing the village that cares for them to self-sufficiency through growing their own food, etc.</i></p>
<p><i>Praise the Lord for our great staff who are unified in spirit and purpose.</i></p>	<p><i>Pray for the development of more evangelistic tools that we have on our drawing board.</i></p>