

*2 Timothy 2:1-2*

*You then, my son, be strong in the grace which is in Christ Jesus. And the things you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable men who will also be qualified to teach others.*

September 2015

*Dear Friends,*

One of my major tasks in leading CrossWay International is training others in ministry. The older I get, the more important this task looms for me. And it's always a joy to see our missionaries and coworkers take on more responsibility, and then to take it to the next level and train others.

It is especially gratifying to let all know that Jason Chollar, our oldest son, is coming on as a full-time faith missionary with CrossWay International, starting this month of September. Many of you may remember Jason back in 1984 when we first went on the road as a family to present our calling to be missionaries. Jason was nine years old back then and is now 40.

He has served faithfully leading worship at a church north of Seattle for 18 years now, and is taking the step of faith to trust the Lord to provide for his ministry with us. This is a large step for Jason, Danica and their 3 teenage kids. He is leaving his salaried position, and will be traveling to present his ministry to others, and what God is calling him to do within our organization.

Jason and I returned from a very fruitful mission trip to Nicaragua last August, and Jason took to it like a duck to water. At the hour we were to leave the hotel where we had stayed in Nicaragua on this mission trip for a week, Jason asked me, "Has anyone talked to Jose, the owner of the hotel, about the Lord?" This week we had already seen over 90 Nicaraguans come to faith in Christ alone for their salvation, but Jason was still on the hunt for more. I told him that I didn't think anyone had talked to Jose, but I wasn't sure since we were with a team of 4 Americans and 4 Nicaraguans. Jason proceeded to follow up, with Francisco translating for him, and within 15 minutes Jose's eyes were tearing up and he trusted the Lord through the verses and illustrations Jason shared.



*Street Witnessing in Diriamba*

So I'm teaching Jason to do what I do as a full-time missionary, but I must admit, he doesn't need much teaching. His gifts of music, evangelism and preaching were all used with good results on this mission trip. In addition, he has a very strong linguistic background. When we lived in Belgium, in 7th through 12th grade he majored in Latin and along with that studied German, French, and English, all in Flemish. The French was especially helpful with the Spanish of this country.

During that week of our mission trip, we bought a guitar for him and Jason went with me from event to event, playing and singing in Spanish (which he has never studied) a couple of songs which he knocked out in an hour or two. It was amazing how quickly he was learning Spanish!



*Jason Preaching the Good News*



*Jason has New Friends*

## Nicaragua – Teaching Others to Teach Others

Here are some of the ways that God used our team on this mission trip.

- At the Humberto Alvarado Hospital in Masaya you have provided fans for the little sweating, sick babies and children. 25 of the mothers and fathers trusted in Christ for their salvation during our visit. And when we were leaving, the nurses and staff insisted that Jason play his guitar and teach them the Spanish songs which they had heard us singing in the other rooms. Pastor Urrutia (who visits this hospital every Sunday at 5 am) was also with us. He will follow up on these new believers.

- In the park in Diriamba, we gathered a small crowd using Jason and his guitar again, and once more, after some open-air *teaching*, we had many trust in Christ. Francisco Caldera interpreted for us, as usual, and Johnny Gaitan assisted.

- Jason and I started off the Police Training Seminar with singing, preaching, and *teaching* for a group of Nicaraguan police officers at our Training Center in Laguna de Apoya. Bruce McIntosh, our International Training Director, had lined this up. He and George Peach, a Sergeant with the police department in Pennsylvania, had the opportunity to *teach* leadership principles for 2 days. They also had a couple of these police officers trust in the Lord.

- The team also visited a number of churches. On one such occasion, I gave my preaching/*teaching* assignment to Jason, and after preaching/*teaching*, he had 8 visitors trust the Lord.

- We also visited 5 different prisons and jails. This was the most fruitful fishing hole, with more than 50 coming to faith in Christ.

One illustration that I used to connect with the prisoners while *teaching* them had to do with my arrival into the airport in Nicaragua. I was standing in front of a table in the Managua airport as the customs agents were going through my checked bags. They kept saying Balas! Balas! (Spanish for bullets). This confused me. I had brought in batons and handcuffs to give out at the Police Training Seminar we had planned, but I had not packed any bullets. The National Commissioner of Police in Nicaragua had given me a letter of authorization to bring in the batons and handcuffs but certainly not bullets. So I kept saying, "Those aren't my bullets. I didn't pack any bullets." Jason, my son, was standing next to me and said,

"Dad, they are showing you 8 bullets which they took from a small side pocket of the locked gun bag. Now I was really confused. It's a crime to carry in bullets without authorization and you can end up in jail. And how did I get through TSA in the USA? It wasn't making any sense to me.

To make things worse, I also kept saying, "The police are looking for me." I'm not sure they understood what I meant. I wasn't on the run from the police. We had it all arranged that a couple of police officers were supposed to meet me at the plane and escort me through immigration and customs. Francisco, our Field Director, was waiting outside the customs area and called me on his cell phone to let me know the police officers were looking for me but couldn't find me for some reason and may have given up their search. So the custom officers may have thought I was on the run from the police!

Then it dawned on me. This is what must have happened. I had purchased a gun bag to place all the batons and handcuffs in, but the bag was too small. So I asked my Executive Assistant, Danielle, to see if she could find a larger gun bag in my office that would hold all the items. (Yes, as



Visiting the Hospital Where You Gave Fans



Bruce and George at Masaya Prison



Offering Hope in the Prisons

a blind man, I do hunt but don't have time to explain that here.) So apparently there were some bullets left over from a previous hunt I was on, which I had forgotten, in a small side pocket of that larger bag. Eight .223 bullets.

After an hour of discussion with the custom agents, they finally understood I was really blind and it was an accident. They agreed not to arrest me but to check with the National Commissioner of the Police, and if all checked out, they would release the batons and handcuffs to him which he could then pass on to me or our Field Director at a later time.

Well, all in all, it worked out and made for a great opening illustration for the times I went in to visit prisons. I was able to tell the prisoners, "Hey, I almost joined you behind the bars!" But since we ended up leading 2 of the police officers to the Lord and more than 50 prisoners, it seemed to all work out for the best. (Romans 8:28). And it served as an illustration to all how God can take a mistake and use it for his glory to help bring others to Himself.

## *Liberia - Teaching Others to Teach Others*

Allen Mann, our Regional Director with CrossWay International, is taking on the responsibility for this country in west Africa. He was there last year just when the Ebola crisis was breaking out, but is determined to return. He will be *teaching* at a Pastors Conference at our Training Center in Ben Town this month, and then is off to teach the Make It Clear! Seminar (our seminar on creative and personal evangelism) to 150 public school *teachers*. The administrators of their public school system have requested that someone from CrossWay International come in and *teach* on this vital area. This will probably have already happened by the time you receive this prayer letter, so pray that the lessons these 150 teachers learn will be passed on to the 10,000 students they *teach*.



*CrossWay Christian School Kids in Liberia*

Allen will also be assessing the needs of our school in Ben Town with our 150 orphans and needy kids. The Ebola outbreak last year devastated their economy and we are fully supporting the school at this time. Allen will be putting out an appeal to his prayer partners who might be willing to take on our teachers for support. Right now they are paid on the Liberian scale of between \$85 and \$125 a month. This means our total monthly need for the *teachers* and staff run around \$1200 a month. If you feel led to help with this, please let Allen or me know.

## *Kenya - Teaching Others to Teach Others*

Ken Gatithi continues to do a great job in his country of Kenya. He is installing water wells, hydro-pumps, and rain harvest tanks in many rural areas that have no clean and safe source of drinking water. Then he returns (often with me when I can make it) and shares the gospel, *teaching* our gift cube and evangelistic principles. We have seen literally thousands come to faith in Christ in this way. He is also returning to show the Jesus film using his laptop, projector and audio systems. These are areas where they have no television or entertainment, and the whole communities are intrigued with such technology, and even more with the story of Jesus and the gospel.

Merle Admire, one of our part-time missionaries, will be there this month installing a rain harvest tank for the community of Gakima to provide clean water for them, and then to work with Ken in leading many of them to faith in Christ. So pray for the follow up of the many who will come to faith in Christ alone through these efforts.



*Showing the Jesus Film in Kenya*

# Praise

# Prayer

- For the bountiful harvest in our four active countries (Nicaragua, Ethiopia, Liberia and Kenya)
- For the increase in co-workers, adding Jason to our team
- For the health and safety of all those who made mission trips this year
- For you, our home team, and all your prayers and support that make this possible

- For follow-up of new believers which we anticipate this month of September
- For Jasmina (the wife of Francisco Caldera, our Field Director in Nicaragua) who has cancer
- For our increased support needs for our missionaries, overseas co-workers, projects, and general support
- For the funds for 250 Bibles for the prisoners in Nicaragua who trusted the Lord in the past few months

September 2015



## Ethiopia - Teaching Others to Teach Others

At the time of this writing, I'm leaving for Ethiopia to visit my friend and Field Director Melaku Abebe. We will be *teaching* the *teachers* and staff for our school in the town of Meki. Right now we have 12 *teachers* and staff on the payroll, and 170 orphans and needy kids from ages 4 to 9 years old. They love school because many children in this town have no school to attend. I had recently sent funds to expand the school one more grade by adding on another classroom on our building. We are making good progress to get this school to a self-sustaining position but aren't quite there, yet.

While in Meki, I plan to preach at a church nearby. And, then, when we return to Addis Ababa, Melaku and the leaders of his 3 home groups plan to discuss with me the next steps to starting a church with their members.



*The Adorable Kids in Meki*

*Thanks again for all you do to make this possible,*

*Dean Chollar*