

April 2021

THROUGH THE EYES OF A BLIND MISSIONARY



A deer in our local grocery store



The backwards brain bicycle



A kangaroo at the auto shop

A deer in our local grocery store, learning to ride a "backwards brain bicycle", a kangaroo at the auto shop, and more ... Do these strange images sound familiar? If not, then you probably aren't getting Dean's monthly devotional emails. God has given Dean a unique perspective on life and God seems to delight in using the vision of a blind man to challenge

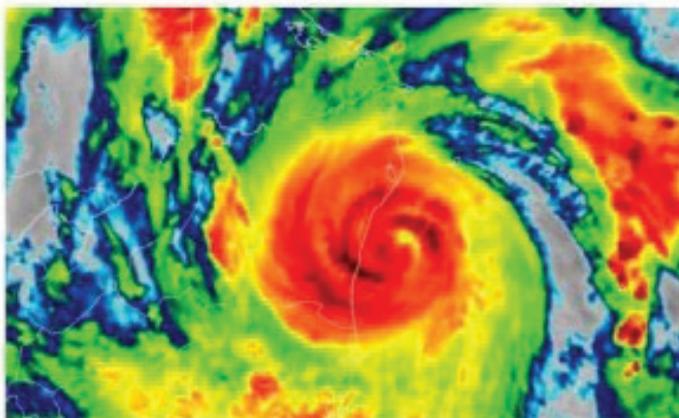
those of us tempted to rely too heavily on our physical sight. If you would like to receive a monthly devotional and share personal prayer requests - send Dean an email:

dean@gocrossway.org

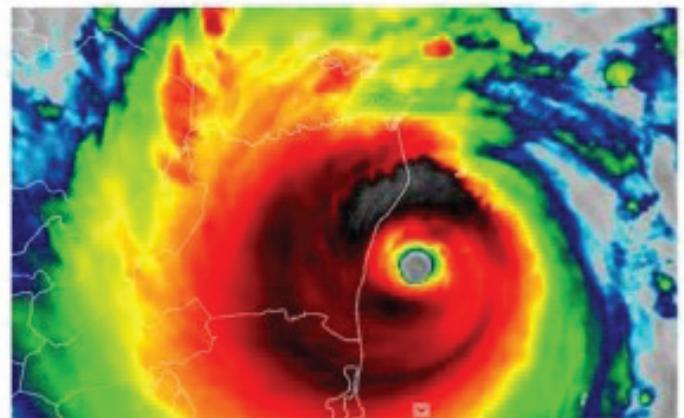


Nicaragua

Hurricane Outreach



Hurricane Eta, Nov. 3



Hurricane Iota, Nov. 16

Satellite views of Category 4 hurricanes Eta and Iota within 15 miles of each other as they bear down on Nicaragua in November 2020. (NOAA/Dakota Smith)

Nicaragua



Basic emergency supplies like rice & beans are handed out to families

A lot has happened in Nicaragua in the last 6 months. Besides dealing with the pandemic like the rest of the world, towards the end of November 2020, Nicaragua was hit with two hurricanes, one right after the other. Because of your generosity we were able to do multiple rounds of outreach, starting near our base of operations in Laguna de Apoyo, and spreading out from there. Basic supplies like rice, beans, toilet paper and soap were gratefully received. These outreaches also gave Kevin and our team in Nicaragua unique opportunities to



Kevin and Josue training students to share the Gospel

Hurricane Outreach (continued)



People have open hearts to the Gospel as we show tangible proof of His love

share the gospel, to help meet the greatest need we ALL face: reconciliation with our Creator. In addition to evangelism, these emergency outreach projects gave us opportunities to meet and partner with more of our fellow brothers and sisters from the region. It was a great opportunity for discipleship, offering students from CrossWay TecNica the chance to share the love of God with others both in word and deed. Our latest example is the Kinal community outreach seen in the pictures above. More pictures are available online.

CrossWay TecNica

Speaking of CrossWay TecNica, our technical school training students in English and Computer skills is slowly growing in attendance. This region was already struggling financially, and that was before the protests, the pandemic and the hurricanes. We are so thankful for your contributions that allow us to keep the school running and tuition rates affordable while we continue to move it towards a self-sustaining position. We are convinced the Lord will use this school and it's students for valuable Kingdom work for years to come!

Kenya



New rain harvest water tank in Karima

Just a few minutes away from our headquarters is Karima Primary School. This poor, rural public school was in dire need of safe, clean water. The current main source of water is the runoff from the gutters into an open cement hole. On our website you can see the pictures of that nasty water. Because of your generous donations, we were able to hire a team to install a new rain harvest system. Not only do these children now have access to much cleaner and safer water, but Moses, our field director, had the opportunity to share the gospel with the entire school of around 450 students. He was able to explain why strangers who have never met them have paid for this rain harvest system to be installed: it is the love of Jesus that compels us to reach out to them in their need. And our GREATEST

Karima Primary School Outreach



Children trusting in Jesus

need, what our eternal souls need, even more than our bodies need physical water, is the living water of Jesus Christ. Most of these children have only ever heard the myth that if you can just be good enough, you will be saved. Moses was able to present the wonderful truth that we are saved by trusting in Jesus Christ – and nothing else! About half of the students raised their hands, indicating this was the first time they had ever heard this message and that they were making a decision to put their trust in Jesus Christ alone that day. Praise the Lord! Moses has been invited to visit regularly and is excited to meet the leader in charge of spiritual development for this school, for ongoing discipleship. For more pictures and details, please check out our website.



Look at these pretty hand sewn dresses

Widows Sewing Ministry Team

A few of the younger widows that live nearby our training center in Sagana have been allowed to come back and begin their sewing training again. Here you see a picture with Edith and the widows holding up some of the dresses that they have made. We are excited at the long term help this team will be able to provide as we disciple them spiritually, as well as teach them a skilled trade that they will be able to use for income for their families.

Like the Moon ...



Evangelism tip #1: Acknowledge Our "Dark Side" Did you know that the moon rotates in such a way that we always see the same side? Mark Twain said that every man is like the moon; he has a dark side that he doesn't want anyone to see. Perhaps surprisingly, we

find that when we are open with people about our dark side, our struggle with sin, people are often more receptive to hearing the gospel. It is important for us to come in humility, instead of a self-righteous attitude.

Evangelism tip #2: Reflect & Point to Jesus

Just like the moon, we generate no light of our own, but are only *reflectors* of *His* light. In John 8:12 Jesus said "I am the light of the world." He is the source of all light and came to expose the darkness by providing His bright light for all to know. In Matthew 5 Jesus tells us that we are to be the light of the world, to let our light shine before others, that they may see our good deeds and glorify our Father in heaven. May we all reflect the light and love of Jesus Christ to those living in darkness!

Questions in a "Pandemic" World

When will we get to visit our dear brothers and sisters and coworkers in Kenya and Nicaragua? Situations like the recent and rather sudden re-lock down in Kenya make planning even more complex, even more of a question mark than usual. How can we overcome the various hurdles of vaccines, local and international travel restrictions, shut downs, ...? We resonate with the words of Paul. Lord willing, we hope to see them in person again soon!

"But since we were torn away from you, brothers, for a short time, in person not in heart, we endeavored the more eagerly and with great desire to see you face to face, because we wanted to come to you—I, Paul, again and again—but Satan hindered us..."

1 Thessalonians 2:17-20

Praise Reports

- Continued funding and completion of projects in Nicaragua and Kenya
- Response to the Gospel after mercy projects in both Kenya and Nicaragua
- Health and safety of CrossWay International team in US and abroad

Prayer Requests

- Wisdom and timing of future travel
- Joan's family is dealing with the recent unexpected loss of her sister and other extremely difficult health issues among remaining extended family members.
- Continued spread of the gospel.

Giving is easy. Send a check to the address below or visit www.gocrossway.org/give
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