

Declare His Glory among the heathen, His wonders among all people. Ps. 96:3

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Dear Praying Friends,

Many doors have been open to us for ministering the Gospel. Since January we have been in Nicaragua, Haiti, Wales and various parts of the Eastern United States. The emphasis for this report will be my 2nd trip to Nicaragua the first week of May. We are seeing good things happen in one of the rural sections of Nicaragua. In the last year or two there have been several people profess Christ as their Savior. These converts have continued steadfast. **My plan for this trip was two-fold:** First, to take care of some private business and secondly, to spend time teaching the local pastors. There are eleven men we have been working with on a regular basis.

Now let me tell you God's plan: As soon as I got to Nicaragua, I discovered that the people in the village were hungry. It is not exactly a primitive village. Most of the people live in small one-room wooden houses with a tin roof. A few have electricity, but it is still not modern life like we know it. The economical situation is very poor. They basically live off of the land. Because of the recent extended rainy season, they had had no fruit or vegetables. They have no money to buy food. Some families were sending their children away to other relatives that had food. Several people told me that they had had nothing to eat in two or three days. It is very difficult to preach and minister the grace of God to hungry people.

I had with me \$500 mission money. I was able to sell my truck and collected \$700. That gave me \$1200 to buy food. I bought rice, cornflakes, powdered milk and cooking oil. I saw something unusual happen that I had not seen happen in Nicaragua. Some of the brethren that lived about 30 miles away heard that we were trying to help these people. One of the brethren, Pablo, whom I had preached to in the 90's and had recently gotten his heart right with the Lord, brought me \$250 to help. Another brother from Managua gave me almost \$300. We took the food I was able to purchase and passed it out to the people in the churches that I preached in on Sunday. We ran out of food and money before we reached that last service. On Monday morning, I was praying and the Lord was telling me to prepare to feed the rest of the families. When I called home, my wife told me that Brother Bob Doom needed me to talk to him. I thought, "Oh, no, I am in trouble again!!" Brother Bob said, "What do you need to meet the need?" After a little research of the food available and the people left to minister to, I estimated that I needed about \$1,300. He cheerfully told me that he was sending Anna a check to complete this job.

I know the man at the market very well. He told me to take what I needed and pay as soon as possible. Praise the Lord; I was able to pay quickly. A brother that owned a bakery donated a pickup truck full of bread. We sent the bread immediately to the village to be distributed 2 loaves per household. A short time later another gentleman gave me a load of pineapples and papaya that were too ripe to sell. As soon as the truck returned from distributing the bread, we sent the fruit.

All the while, we were announcing that there would be a preaching meeting on Monday and Tuesday night. I have never seen anything come together as uniquely as this effort that we called ministering to the saints. Sometimes I use humanitarian efforts to open the door for the preaching of the Gospel to the lost, but this time we were gearing this materials to the hungry saints, five churches in particular.

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In my quiet time, I searched my heart to see if I was doing this in a Biblical fashion. The Lord reminded me that Paul took offerings from the Macedonian church for the troubled Saints at Jerusalem. By 5:00 in the evening on Monday, we had bags of rice, bags of beans, cornflakes, powdered milk, cooking oil, head lice medicine and worm medicine ready to deliver. We ministered to approximately 150 families. We were also able to help a dear sister get medicine for her kidney stones. That medicine was 50.00.

A Cell phone for Cornflakes: A brother, one of the few with a job, is a midwife. He gets paid by the government to assist the ladies during child birth in the surrounding villages. Someone stole his cell phone which is vital to his job. Someone had given him the cornflakes – 10 cases of 24 boxes each. I purchased a cell phone, and traded for his cornflakes. He was rejoicing that he wouldn't lose his job that takes care of him, his wife and six children.

There was a tremendous spirit of thanksgiving and praises to the Lord from these believers. Many of them said they wish they knew how to express thanks to the American brethren. I informed them this time it was not only the American brethren, but it was concerned Nicaraguan Christians as well. The total offering from the Nicaraguan Christians was \$900. **We rejoice greatly at the spiritual maturity of these believers evidenced by their willingness to give.**

One Monday and Tuesday night, I preached to about 300. The first night I preached on the feeding of the 5000. My message: Christ meets the need that is greater than physical hunger. There was a unique calmness on this meeting. I saw that there was a hunger in these people as great as their physical hunger had been. There were a number of lost people that came to hear the preaching. On Tuesday night, I preached a message on the difference between a lost man and a saved man from Eph 2.

It is a glorious privilege to see the moving of the Lord as He accomplishes His own purpose in this area of Nicaragua. I rejoice to give you this report and thank you for your part in sending us there to minister.

Please pray as we have before us tremendous opportunities.

Johnny and I will be going back to Haiti on a Bible distribution mission, June 2-9. We have purchased 280 French study Bibles, and were given 200 French paperback Bibles toward this project.

I will also be preaching missionary emphasis in churches in NC, VA, WV, and GA in the next few weeks. I will be helping in a couple camp meetings. During race week, the last week of May in Charlotte we are gearing toward a literature crusade. We are going to give out literature in the parking lot. We will be taking notes on this effort as to how we can do it better there and in other places in the future.

We praise the Lord for support and provisions that He is sending our way. Also, we are thankful for new interest being shown in our ministry.

Let me close with a devotional thought on missions:

1. Faith promise taught – we find our text in II Corinthians chapters 8 and 9
2. Faith promise tested – any venture of faith has severe testing.
3. Faith promise triumphant – God given faith is always triumphant.

All Because of His Amazing Grace,

Jeff and Anna Holloway

I look forward to camp meetings Jeff