

News From

HONDURAS

Family Outreach Newsletter

December 2002

THE LORD IS SO GOOD!

To continue the story from where we left off, we have to tell about our trip home to Honduras in September. We stopped in Dallas to visit some of Chuck's relatives, who fed us and gave us beds to sleep in for a night.

We felt so blessed when we got to the Mexican border because we passed as tourists instead of trans migrants- which is normally how you would travel towing a trailer. As tourists we could travel with less restrictions.

After four full days of driving, we finally made it to Honduras in the morning on Saturday, September 21. It took about four hours at the border to complete the paper work.

While we were at the border, Chuck asked one of the officials if the road from Santa Rosa de Copan to La Esperanza was paved. The official told him that it was all paved except for about four miles- which would have cut off about two hours of our time. We thought we would get home around four in the afternoon.

As we drove down the paved road, we were excited to think that in just a few hours we would be home. But after several miles of driving, the road turned into dirt and rock. We thought this must be the four miles without pavement that the official told us about.

The road was terrible. Chuck could only drive about ten miles per hour. We drove on, hoping to see pavement, but we never did. At this point, turning around would have taken us six more hours to get home.

Four o'clock in the afternoon came and went. We decided to keep going. By nightfall we began to become concerned. We had driven high into the mountains and there were very few houses. Driving at night could also be dangerous.

We asked the Lord, "Why did You want us to come this way? There has to be a reason."

At about seven p.m. we drove into a small village. Chuck asked a young man who was driving a large truck how long it would take to get to La Esperanza. He told us it would be three hours more!

It was right then that an older man came up to the truck and asked if we needed some help. We told him it was late and we needed a place to stay.

The man invited us to park the truck in his yard and stay the night at his home. We accepted his offer and found his family very nice. They said they had only seen American children on TV. We were impressed by Mario Perez and his family as well! Mario likes to read and enjoys carrying on intellectual conversations.

Chuck and Charles discovered that one of Mario's sons was very interested in a sport they enjoy-- fencing. So they showed him some moves and they all had a good time.

After dinner, Mario asked Chuck to give a scripture class. You could feel the Lord's gentle touch as we went through the class. We knew that this was the reason the Lord had led us down this road. There is a joy in sharing that one cannot explain. This is what the work here is all about.

To our surprise, three weeks later Mario showed up at our house. He stayed for the weekend, and so he was able to worship with our family and the congregation in Siguatepeque. Some of his family plan on coming to visit us in December. Please keep them all in your prayers.

CALLED TO PRIESTHOOD

About three years ago Chuck had an experience where the Holy Spirit told him that Angel Castro would be called to the ministry. At this time he wasn't told when or to what office. When Gary Metzger was here two years ago he also felt impressed that Angel had a calling, but didn't know which office nor the timing.

Shortly after our return in September, Chuck had an experience where he was led to have Angel read III Nephi 8:32 at a church service. As Angel read the scripture (Behold one of you will be ordained, and to him will I give authority to break bread and bless it and give it unto the people of my church...), the Lord's Spirit spoke to Chuck and told him that the scripture applied to Angel.

When Chuck talked to Angel afterwards, he learned that Angel had a dream a month prior to this experience where Chuck asked him to come up to the pulpit and preach. As a result of this dream, he realized that he would be ordained to the priesthood sometime. Others testified to the validity of this call, then his name was presented to the congregation for their approval. He has now been ordained to the office of Priest.

**May God bless each of you,
Chuck and Regina Sperry and family**

Prayer Requests

- *Mario Perez Family- accept the gospel
- *Ismael and Maruja Bevilacqua- he is reading the Book of Mormon
- *Toledo Family- will come to know Jesus Christ
- *Bus in Siguatepeque- get transmission fixed
- *Sperry's truck- transmission repaired in the States is having problems again

Volunteer Needs

*Mechanic to come to Honduras to help work on automatic transmissions.

*Volunteers to come any time for extended period to support missionary efforts.

Please contact Dan Norman or Jon Tandy.

News

A family camp will be held for the Honduran churches January 3-5 in Siguatepeque. More news next time.

In Siguatepeque the bus ministry is on hold because the transmission has quit working. Finances to fix it are not available. We are looking for a volunteer who knows about automatic transmissions to come from the States to help - any volunteers? The congregation is able to make the money for the taxes and general upkeep of the bus, but this problem was not expected. Mechanics here do not know how to work on auto transmissions.

Although we do not have a bus functioning, there is one new family that is attending church and receiving cottage meetings. In the next few months there will be five more baptisms here in Siguatepeque. There will be two baptisms this month in Horcones.

We apologize for the delay in getting this newsletter out. We've had some technical issues which should be resolved by next time.

Mission Board Members

President: Dan Norman (dannorman@yahoo.com)

Secretary: Ruthanne Norman

Treasurer: Jon Tandy (jptandy@usa.net)

Newsletter: Brad & Rachel Gard, (rachbagmo@yahoo.com)
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Donations may be made to:

Family Outreach

PO Box 22 Indep., MO 64051

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