

U... HIGHLIGHTS ...

U CHILD SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM

CHILDREN SPONSORED TO DATE: 81
IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO SPONSOR A CHILD,
JUST GO TO THE FOLLOWING WEBSITE:
WWW.MEHONDURAS.ORG/CSP

U Team hosted by MEH this Fall:

- Glad Tidings Assemblies, London, Ontario
- James Walker's Team, Tyler, Texas

U WHAT'S UP WITH THE COFFEE SALES?

COFFEEONLINE - SHIPPING CHANGES
COMING SOON!
MANOS DE CAFÉ - RECORD SALES:
OVER 3200 LBS SOLD 2007

MANOS DE CAFÉ IS GOING INTO THE
COFFEE EXPORT BUSINESS...USA AND
CANADA. INTERESTED? EMAIL ME AT
DERM_W@YAHOO.COM

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Merry Christmas and a very
Prosperous New Year to all of you from Viola and I.

Westcott Newsletter

THERE IS SO MUCH HAPPENING IN OUR MISSION
WORK THAT IT WOULD TAKE WRITING A SMALL
BOOK TO KEEP YOU UP TO DATE. HERE IS A
GLIMPSE INTO ONE OF OUR RECENT ENCOUNTERS.

*Isn't it funny how we sometimes connect with strangers in a far away
land...you'd think we knew one another from someplace long ago..*

In the right place at the right time...

We had just finished a four day conference in Copan with over 100 other missionary organizations and NGO's when we continued our trip to the Roatan island off the north coast of Honduras. One of our supporting churches encouraged us to take some time for ourselves, away from all our responsibilities and just have fun and veg-out. I was all for that. Only thing was I really liked it!☺ I wondered if the Lord was calling us to Roatan with it's lovely beaches and yummy restaurants and diving off the coral reefs. I did it all and I thought I heard God's voice while underwater having a great time seeing colors that I have no way of describing. I was told that it was the water pressure causing me to have illusions of such a call. I want a second opinion.

Anyway...on our second morning in Roatan, Viola and I waited on the sidewalk for this particular beach shore bakery/restaurant to open. It was early and it ran a little late in opening. We didn't mind waiting. The menu in the window caught our interest...imported food from North America; gotta check this out. Shortly before the doors opened, a young lady joined us in conversation, commenting on how great their food was and that she occasionally stops by. This morning, on the spur of the moment, she thought she would treat herself to a breakfast before she headed off to the local hospital to do her volunteer work. Later, we learned that it was her mission work that she was attending to. We struck it off with Olivia.

over breakfast, Olivia introduced us to snuba diving, her tent-making business that she shares with another Christian. I had given up on my idea of doing any sea diving; no fun doing this alone. Friends has planned on accompanying us but had to cancel for personal reasons. But the Lord saw my desire and made it happen. One of Olivia's guides gave me personal one-on-one instruction, first class attention ...and I had a blast of a time. Viola was invited to go but she thought she could best serve the situation by praying onshore as I dove for the first time in my life.

Early on into our conversation, Olivia shared her heart for a little girl, eleven month old Shamari, who's mother had AIDS. Because of this situation, Shamari was assumed to have HIV and was shunned by her family, almost to the point of starvation. If not for the intervention of Olivia, this little baby would have died from malnutrition. Olivia did not know how she was going to care for Shamari but it was quite evident to us that she was confident that the Lord had placed her into this child's life. Viola and I were moved with compassion for her work and offered to pray for Shamari and the whole situation...for her health and also to help financially.

Since then, many wonderful answers to prayer have taken place. The child is now in a Christian orphanage just outside Tegucigalpa, close to where we live. Olivia hopes to stay with us sometime soon as she visits the baby, ensuring all is well. Just before we left Honduras, Olivia told us that she did not recognize a recent picture of Shamari because she had gained so much weight. PTL



Olivia is the lady smiling on the top picture above.

The other lady is the baby's grandmother. On one occasion, after Olivia supplied the grandmother with baby formula, she discovered that the grandmother wasn't feeding the child all the milk in the bottle. She wanted to spare the milk along, thinking that she needed to make it last as long as possible.



What I'm seeing from my research on burnt-out missionaries...

In this section of our newsletter, I will be giving our readers some insight into my findings on Missionary Attrition as I discover them from my person experience and various readings taken from two surveys conducted by the World Evangelical Alliance Missions Commission (WEA).

Attrition is:

1. a reduction or decrease in numbers, size, or strength.
2. a wearing down or weakening of resistance, esp. as a result of continuous pressure or harassment.
3. a gradual reduction in work force without firing of personnel, as when workers resign or retire and are not replaced.

A SUPPORTIVE FAMILY

The second contributor to attrition is the lack of support from one's family...the immediate and extended family. It is somewhat disheartening when a family forces the issue of entering into missions and the spouse is not quite in agreement. This makes for a trying time. Trying to live out the near impossible task of proving to the other spouse that "you will see...everything will work out; just wait and see". This plays right into the enemies hands to destroy the union of marriage. It also portrays a terrible witness to the community you are called to influence into the Kingdom of God. It is best to wait until the Lord has totally convinced the other spouse that they are surely called to missions. God is not blind; He sees the situation.

The extended family, also can prove to be a disappointment. Although you don't need their agreement...you can at least have their blessing. They don't really understand!... either because they are not believers themselves or their ears and heart are not attuned to the Lord in this matter. Either way, the family can at least keep their mouths shut. If they can't say something positive and encouraging, they should at least keep it shut. Sorry, it felt good to say that!

!! If they are that disruptive and rebellious, hard to control, who needs them? !!

Sorry to say, last but not least, the Church body has also contributed to this second cause of attrition. "Gotta get some missionaries out there to represent us so we can feel complete in our responsibilities as a church." Yes by all qualifying means, churches need to be sending missionaries to all corners of the globe but not pushing them out there before they are ready. The church should qualify their missionaries and have a structure in place that will help them be accountable for their time in missions. Certainly one should have first proven themselves in the local church outreaches and service before qualifying to go to another land and serve strangers. And PLEASE don't send your undesirables out in missions for someone else to contend with because you have failed in the task to council them yourself. If they are that disruptive and rebellious, hard to control, who needs them? If that makes your hair stand on end you should read what Paul had to say in 1 Timothy 1:20.

I am sad to say that this is not some text book babble I am repeating but it's first hand experience. Church, we need to be shrewd in our selection of those going out to represent the Body of Christ in foreign lands... isn't He worthy of a higher standard?



Victory Christian Centre
Our Sending Church

Praise & Prayer Requests

As always, our heart is filled with praise and thanksgiving for all who partner with us day by day with your prayers, finances, and words of encouragement. God bless you. We could not do it without each one of you.



- We need more laborers for the mission. i.e. the Child Sponsorship Program, and Manos de Café which is a fundraising project to purchase food for the children.
- Thanksgiving to the Lord for the safe arrival of Angela, Daniel, Joshua and ourselves to Maryland to spend Christmas together with Wes, Jenny and Ava. We are looking forward to a wonderful family time together. The last time we were together to celebrate Christmas was 1997.

From our heart to yours, a very Merry Christmas and continuously Blessed New Year.



Hope (Wish) List

\$10,000.00 needed start the branding process for His Secret Place: Mission to Missionaries. I know this money is in someone's hands just waiting for such a time as this. Tax Receipt is available.