



"MAY GOD BE AT THE CENTER OF IT ALL!"

Summer 2008

That's what we asked you to pray for us in the last newsletter - for our summer schedule - that God would be at the center of it all. THANK YOU for your prayers!! It was a totally busy, crazy, and *BLESSED* summer - and we saw God at the center!!! Amen! ☺ We pray you all survived your busy summers as well! ☺

We have seen more rain this season than any other in recent history. In spite of this, we were able to complete most of the tasks/projects we had set out to accomplish this summer - which is truly amazing! We know God is involved in every detail - but we really saw it these past few months. One afternoon, it began to rain right before time to do church service in Liquidambo - we prayed according to scripture - he who believes in Me, the works that I do, he will do also and greater works than these. John 14:12. Jesus calmed the storm, remember? ☺ With God at the center of our prayers - we saw the rain stop so we could do service and the people could come and hear the Word preached. Amen!

Due to the very heavy and constant rains at times, there is an area on our side of the country that experienced a bad mudslide. There were houses that were buried, and sadly there were many lives lost. The people had to run for the hills (literally) with just what they had on their backs - they could take nothing with them as there was no time. Many of those people wound up in church, school, and government shelters. One such church shelter was only minutes away from where we were with a team at the time. Like we always say. "You gotta *have* a plan in order to *change* the plan". ☺ And that's what we did. Within about 12hrs. of hearing about the disaster, we were buying 600# of corn, 200# of rice, 100# of sugar and lots of soap and bleach. We were able to work with the folks of San Antonio (we were there when we heard) and we all brought this, and more, to the shelter for folks to cook up and eat. That same day - we were able to collect all the clothes that had been left by teams up to that point, blankets that had been sent down, toys and things for the kids, AND medicines for those in need. We visited the shelter a second time and we were able to play with and minister Christ's love to the families and kids, while helping with clothes etc. It was an incredible day - there's nothing like that feeling that tells you that you are exactly where God wants you to be at that moment - with HIM at the center - it all "works". It's a beautiful thing. ☺ We are praying about our future involvement and how we can help.

We have two more children to tell you about. The first is Laura. She lives in San Antonio, she is 19yrs. old - and the size of a 9yr. old. She has a serious heart condition, and is actually our Veronica's cousin. We thought she was a 10yr old from a distance, as she never got close enough to really see her. Her brother Carlos, and her father asked for a meeting with us one day. They tearfully told us of Laura's worsening condition and asked if there was any way we could help. "Are you kidding me?" ☺ That Friday afternoon, I was able to speak to one of the docs at the hospital that does the heart surgeries for kids. They told me to bring her in on Monday, that they would be looking for her. After lots of tests and miracles along the way, Laura has a date for surgery - Sept. 2. The best news of all - we were able to be with Laura when she accepted Christ as her Lord and Savior!!! What a special moment - what a miracle!

Please pray with us on this date - she is a very scared young lady, hanging on to Jesus with all of her new found faith - with God at the center of her life right now.

Next is little Feliciano - from Liquidambo. He is about a month old now - two weeks old when we saw him for the first time. His mom Carmen, is a slightly older (28 yrs. old we think) first time mom and unfortunately didn't have the advantage of any teaching - her breast milk was pretty dried up and the baby was literally wasting away - may not have survived very much longer. We have begun to help with nutrition for him - and he is improving daily!!! We were again able to tell a family - blessings and miracles come from heaven - God heard their cries and answered. Please keep Feliciano and his family in your prayers.

Speaking of young people, and Carlos... ☺ It began last summer. One of our teams brought dramas to perform and also to teach to the youth in San Antonio. We were able to take them up to Tachoche (another village) with the dramas - the San Antonio youth were loving it! Especially their leader, Carlos. Since then - he has been teaching dramas and even *creating* his own with the youth!! They just recently performed one for us - it was excellent - taught about the temptations of the world and the price Jesus paid for our sins. This summer he participated with a team and did basically a 2-person drama - and he did it well!!!! It was awesome - he is a wonderful example for the youth that are watching him. We have had our eye on Carlos for a little while - we have believed that he will be in ministry in some form or another. We felt this summer was the right time to invite him to partner with us in ministry - to learn and be discipled while working in the ministry with us. He loved, and loves, the idea. He has been steadily working with us since the beginning of the summer - and he has been a true blessing. He has been working more with the kids up in Liquidambo as well as the youth in San Antonio. He helped me teach a David and Goliath drama to the kids in Liquidambo - their first!! They and their parents were totally excited and can't wait for more! He has been working on the building projects with us as well - and has an incredible work ethic. Most of all - his love for the Lord is completely evident in his life. The teams that have come have been able to get to know Carlos as a real person - who laughs and jokes and wants to learn English. ☺ He blows us away with his knowledge of scripture. He is however, one of the main providers for his family. If you feel led to help "sponsor" Carlos - he would make approx. \$250/mo. for his family if he were working in a job. You can contact us for more details if you should wish to. ☺ Please pray for Carlos - this is a huge step in his life and journey with God - he for sure has God at the center of his life!

While all of this was going on - there has been a tremendous amount of work being accomplished as well! At the beginning of the summer, we began the Ministry building next to the clinic in Liquidambo - we are now finished with the building itself - working on the final coat of stucco!! Also in Liquidambo, we are half-way done on the permanent bathroom, we have begun digging the well (pray we can find lots of water!!), AND we have stairs to the bathroom now! We were able to deliver corn again - we even received invitations to homes that we hadn't been invited to before! Praise God! In July, the construction on the second half of the church in San Antonio began - in August we were able to put the *ROOF* on!!! It has been an incredible summer - in all ways!!! We want to thank each team that came down and partnered with us during these months and are such a big part of our lives. THANK YOU SCF from NV, Rock Solid from NY, Wesley Memorial from NC and Living Stones from NV!!! We love you all and deeply appreciate all your hard work, your partnership and friendships and the sweet fellowship with each of you!!! God knows!

PRAISE REPORTS/PRAYER REQUESTS

- + Requests in the body of this letter - the kids, surgeries, nutrition, growth, health, keep praying for Emerson and Gabriel, they're doing great!
- + For God to *always* be at the center of all we do and say!!!
- + For the growing church body in San Antonio!! That they would increase in their faith and knowledge of who Jesus is and who *THEY* are in Him
- + For Pastor Oscar of San Antonio - the enemy is not happy with all the miracles there - he has come down with Bell's Palsy. He is fighting "the good fight" ☺ and he is recovering!
- + Against our ever present enemy who would desire to destroy us - he is *really* not happy with all the growth in God's kingdom! We are rejoicing!
- + Financial provision in all aspects of STM - projects, missionaries, vehicles (as in Steve's truck ☺). GOD KNOWS - and we are all resting in that!
- + For each missionary, intern and friend - a deeper walk with, and faith in, Jesus!
- + Rachael is doing her rural clinic work in our area!!! We see her every weekend. She's loving being up in the mountains again - she was made for it. ☺
- + Tyler is continuing to grow in his faith and relationship with God. Keep praying!!

Stay tuned for the next letter - read about....A triple wedding, kids and Robin's stethoscope, the well in Liquidambo - and more!!! ☺ AND..... for more photos - give us a couple of weeks and then check out our web page!

In closing..... our prayer has been and will continue to be for you, and us too - that God is truly at the heart and center of our lives. It's great to know we have people like you walking in this with us - we're not just all individual teams, we're rather all one BIG team!!

We love you! In Him,
Steve, Robin, Rachael and Tyler

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