

On the go with the Bedfords



Pray with us:

- It's the start of the new year for our women's and children's ministries. Pray that we can teach them God's Word and through the Holy Spirit help them come closer to Jesus.
- Pray for our Discipleship Training School and Bible School for the Nations. Both start this week. Pray for God's provision for the students, most of whom are Guatemalans
- Pray for our friend and fellow Globe missionary, Jeff Mills, who has had an serious operation this week. Pray for a quick recovery and new strength.
- Pray for Karin. She is dealing with joint pain from arthritis. Pray for healing and wisdom.
- Pray for our grown up kids: Samuel, Sarah and Josh, that they will grow closer to Jesus and serve Him with joy!



God is our Provider! (by Karin)

God's Word is so encouraging and helps us stay on course! Jesus is the fountain of life and He wants to continually give us strength, courage and peace. He is our provider and we experience that again and again.



A few weeks ago, we went with Jonathan and his family to pick up a wheelchair for him! He was shot in an armed robbery 3 times and was paralyzed from the waist down - and he's only 25 years old! The family is poor and struggling now that he cannot continue in the job he had been doing. We praise God that we already found a sponsor to help the family with some expenses until Jonathan can find something else. Soon after, we also received notice that another ministry could provide him with a wheelchair! For the last couple months, he had to rely on his brother to carry him around.

We are so glad to help Jonathan and Paula through this

time in very practical and material ways. But we also hope to bless them spiritually.

Paula comes to our women's group and just this last week I taught on Psalm 1. We need to grow roots in God's Word in order to weather the storms of life. Jesus has to be the sturdy ground in which we root ourselves. Nothing else will hold us firmly.

Is your life rooted and planted firmly in God? Jesus invites you to come to Him and know Him. Are you planted and nourished, ready to bear fruit joyfully for Him?



He is like a tree planted by streams of water that yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither. In all that he does, he prospers.

Psalm 1:3 (ESV)

God bless you all!

Karin and Joe



I Made It! (by Joe)

I don't like to drive our ministry van. Karin and I drive a really small car and I like that. Why? Because I can get through the narrow roads in the cities and towns of Guatemala, park in more places and it has great gas mileage. But, when we have teams or schools, then I have to drive everyone in the van. And there aren't very many of our staff that have driver's licenses. That always leads to difficult situations, where I can't believe that I my fat van can squeeze through. Yet I've always managed! A few weeks ago, I had to drive the van on a wooden ferry (my first time ever on one of those!). I was sweating just thinking of riding the small planks onto that thing! Would you risk it?



Was I relieved as I rolled it towards one end. Michael, another of our staff, commented: "That was tight, but not so tight as that one parking lot in Guatemala City! And you managed that one, too!" He was right, that lot took a half hour to wiggle out of. But I also didn't have to worry about sinking the van! Afterwards, I had to admit that I was getting better with each new experience and I am more confident, as well.

Two weeks ago, we had a team of young adults from Michigan at our base. They helped with many odd jobs and in our ministries. They were really friendly and great to

have around. Then I asked them to share the message for our women's group.

"Uhhh... I think we can lead worship and take care of the kids, but share a sermon? I don't think we're ready for that!" Naomi told me.

"Hmm... It's time they did a little sweating!" I thought to myself. After I encouraged them and maybe putting on a little pressure, we agreed that a few would share some experiences of how God worked in their lives and what they learned through it. So Grace and Marisa shared that afternoon and they did a great job!

We all have challenges and problems we have to face. They are often God's tools to make us stronger and help us mature.

We are praying, for all of you and also ourselves, that we become stronger and learn to take bigger steps of faith, trusting that the Holy Spirit helps us bear good fruit for His Kingdom!

Thanks for your prayers and faith in what God is doing here in Guatemala!

Joe and Karin



Marisa shares her experiences



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Thanks and God bless you!

