

# THE MISSION NEWSLETTER



JOSE AND SHARI SALAZAR

Chichicastenango, Guatemala C.A.

December, 2010

## WHAT IS A MISSIONARY?

excerpt from *My Utmost for His Highest*, by Oswald Chambers



“In missionary work the great danger is that God’s call will be replaced by the needs of the people, to the point that human sympathy for these needs will be replaced by the needs of the people, to the point that human sympathy for these needs will absolutely overwhelm the meaning of being sent by Jesus. The needs are so enormous, and the conditions so difficult, that every power of the mind falters and fails. We tend to

forget that the one great reason underneath all missionary work is not primarily the elevation of the people, their education, nor their needs, but is first and foremost the command of Jesus Christ—‘Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations...’”

## Family Hammock

from left: Marta, Jose Luis, Pascuala, & Bekah



# FAMILY UPDATE

Our 3 siblings have been with us for 3 months now. They have adjusted amazingly!!! Some of the highlights from the last 2 months include:

**Pascuala, age 8**— heartfelt prayers, learning to read, play dates with neighbors, participating in church program, learning stories from the Bible for the very first time and retelling them (She has a great memory and loves story retelling!), asking the Lord to forgive her of her sins!

**Jose Luis, age 5**—going to school for the first time, participating in church program, eating pizza for the first time which quickly became his favorite food, praying and singing

**Marta, age 1**—taking her first steps, learning to clean up her toys, playing with Rebekah, “reading” her favorite book, From Head to Toe by Eric Carle, learning to pray (no one knows what she is saying except her and God!)



*Pascuala*



*Jose Luis*



*Marta*

We wanted to focus on the highlights from our time with the kids so far. But of course there have been many difficult issues as well. We want to protect the privacy of the kids and so will not go into details in those areas. However, we do ask for you to pray for them and us.

Pascuala and Jose Luis were able to attend the Christian School, El Camino, for the last month of the school year. However they are now out of school for their “summer vacation” during the months of November and December. They did really well adjusting to the school environment and were sad for it to end. We are continuing with at home teaching in order to help prepare them to move on in January to the next grades.

# Casa Bernabe Mission Trip

**November 2-4:** A group of youth from Casa Bernabe orphanage came to Chichicastenango to build houses for widows as well as for families who lost their homes from mudslides. Their youth leaders are working hard to teach them that they need to be givers not just receivers. They began with doing some service right on their campus, then they branched out a little further and volunteered at a dump, and then with this project they branched out even further to our mountainous town to see with their own eyes the needs of others and to serve them with their own hands. We were happy to be able to partner with them in this experience. We pray that they will also be impacted by the Missions Frontier Guatemalan staff—to see others from their own country who reach out and serve their community all year long.



## English Camp: November 28-December 11

We feel blessed to be able to help and affirm what Potter's House Ministry is doing with these youth all year round. They work hard to disciple and tutor these youth and we are happy that we are able to give them something to motivate their students all year long.

If you would like to learn more about Potter's House Ministry, you may go to their webpage at <http://www.pottershouse.org.gt/>

*Excerpt from their web page:*

“For the average American, it is difficult to imagine a life in which the dump is both your home and your place of employment. The garbage, the smell, the filth—these are all outside the realm of our understanding. And yet this squalor is the reality for over 10,000 people who live and work in and near the Guatemala City dump.

Even in their own country, these impoverished citizens are outcasts. They are contemptuously referred to as “the scavengers”—they are devalued and treated as less-than-human. Their situation is dire as they live and work in dangerous and unsanitary conditions. But there is hope. “

This year we had another amazing group of youth for camp. There were 22 youth who attended the camp for the two weeks. About half of them had been here before and then the other half were first timers. We had some great helpers with this year's camp, which was a huge blessing allowing us to not have to be away from our family more than necessary.

Shari taught the English 1 class. The youth are so eager to learn and really worked hard. They really did learn a lot in the 2 weeks that they spent studying English!

Some of the activities for this year's camp included English classes, finance classes, knitting and crafts, cooking, origami, a service project, soccer, making of a video, devotions, and lots of fun and games! We also took a day trip to the nearby “park” which included hiking, going through a cave, zip-lining, and rock climbing. The youth had a blast!

As always we ask that you pray for these youth as they go back to their lives in the city. It is not an easy life, yet we pray that they have HOPE. (PHOTOS FROM CAMP ON NEXT PAGE)

*My  
and  
you,*



*all out for*



*cry aloud*



*er and search*



**CAMP 2010**

Background Verse: Proverbs 2:1-5



## Lemoa Orphanage

Since we have lived in Chichicastenango, we have had many opportunities to work alongside the Lemoa Orphanage. We will be babysitting all of the kids there again this year for the staff to have a Christmas dinner. We have some fun Christmas activities planned. While the kids are on their vacation from school, the Lemoa Orphanage has decided to send some of their older children out to spend time with families. We have been blessed to have a brother and sister, Luis and Mariana, from the Lemoa Orphanage spending much of their vacation time with us in our home. It has been so much fun getting to know them and we hope that they have had a special time in our home as well.

*from left: Luis, Bekah, (being held by) Jose, Jose Luis, Shari, Marta, Mariana, & Pascuala*

In the distance behind: a beautiful view of Chichicastenango.

# GENESIS

The missionaries in Chichicastenango are blessed to have a missionary who is committed to being our very own pastor. The Logan Family have been with us for over 2 years now and it is SUCH a blessing to be ministered to in this way! I was on the mission field for 6 years before having a pastor so I definitely know what it is like to be without. We also have a unique gathering because we are all from different denominations. Our pastor has been going through the book of Genesis and we just thought we would share a small part of what we have learned. As good as Sunday School was for us to learn the Bible stories as children, there is so much more to be learned! A reoccurring theme with many of these characters in Genesis was how they thought they could justify the means by the ends (Abraham having a baby with Hagar, Jacob stealing his brother's birthright by lying to his father, etc..) They thought they were doing these things in order to complete God's promises, but we should know that God would never have us to sin in order to do something for Him. I pray that we will be walking with the Lord not stepping out and trying to serve Him in our own ways. We need His guidance every step of the way. By the way, if you are interested in listening to the sermons from our Missionary Community Church here in Chicastenango, you can go online at <http://www.sermoncloud.com/missionary-community-church/> and download the sermons.

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## Your Mission Trip to Guatemala

We would love to have some of you come to Chichicastenango for a mission trip. We believe it would be a life changing experience. Some of the mission trip opportunities include home construction, clinics, English camp, prison ministries, and other community projects.

Mission Frontier's team philosophy is:

*"It's about God, not about us. It's about the relationships, not the projects."*

**If you are interested in learning more about a mission trip with us, you may go to Mission Frontier's webpage <http://www.missionsfrontier.org/missiontrips.html>**

However, it is important for us to let you know that Casa Salazar will not be receiving teams directly in the home. Here are some of the reasons why:

- 1.) We have seen how teams in orphanages are in and out of the kids' lives. But we are trying to provide a stable environment.
- 2.) We have seen how teams feel empathy for these children and just want to love and hang on them the whole week (I, Shari, have personally experienced this because this was me on my first trip to Guatemala). But we are trying to teach these kids about physical boundaries. Most of the kids we receive will have been victims of abuse (including sexual) and they may have no idea what is appropriate. Having strangers in and out of their lives who want to love on them would be counteractive to what we will be trying to teach them.
- 3.) We have seen how children see the teams as someone to get "stuff" from. But we would rather them receive gifts from us as parents in a normal family setting, like on their birthdays or Christmas or when they have a need. We want them to leave this home as an adult with the desire to work hard in order to get "stuff", not expect to tell their sad story to someone for a handout.

# Vehicle Update

THANK YOU to those who gave specifically towards transportation! We saw the Lord work in this area in more than one way and through many different people. First the vehicle that we had wanted didn't work out. We borrowed the same type of vehicle from friends for a trip to the city with our new family. We realized that even though we had enough seats for all of us, we didn't have enough space for our stuff! So we began looking for a suburban. In the meantime, we were blessed with the amount of money that we had hoped for, yet unable to sell our own car yet. Someone wanted to donate a suburban to other Missions Frontier missionaries. Because they knew of our need, they went to that couple and asked if they might be willing to donate it to us instead. Two more huge blessings! And what a blessing to see them want to share this with us even though it could have benefited themselves. The great part about the car being donated from a supporter is knowing its condition. It really is in good condition and has low mileage. We will be able to cover the shipping and taxes with the money that was donated for the car, yet we will end up with something better than we could have found here! We are still hoping to sell our 4Runner in order to get a smaller vehicle with good gas mileage for when the whole family is not traveling together! With the whole process, we can see how the Lord worked and we are truly thankful!

## Amazing Supporters:

We want to THANK our supporters. We believe that you give extravagantly to us and we are truly thankful! Because you give so extravagantly, we do not want to ask you to give anything more even though we still have needs. However, we would like you to consider being a "cheerleader" for us. If you know anyone who might be interested in what we are doing here in Chichicastenango, please pass on our newsletter and giving opportunities to them. Thank you!

### Giving Opportunities:

-One time or monthly support for Casa Salazar

-Building Project: We need to build another bedroom. We could be receiving 2 more children in the near future!

You may make online donations at <http://www.missionsfrontier.org/casasalazardonation.html>  
Please specify if the donation is for Casa Salazar's budget *or* building project. You will receive a tax deductible receipt for your donation. Thank you!

## Prayer Needs:

- Our family: Pascuala (age 8), Jose Luis (age 5), Marta (age 1), Rebekah (10 months)
  - Luis (age 8) and Mariana (age 11) from Lemoa Orphanage (pictured on page 5)
    - Youth from English Camp
  - Financial needs for Casa Salazar

You can contact us as: [\*\*salazar@missionsfrontier.org\*\*](mailto:salazar@missionsfrontier.org)

You can visit our webpage at: <http://www.missionsfrontier.org/casasalazar.html>