

Nica **News**

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First of all, my apologies to everyone who received the introductory newsletter with a huge list of email names at the top. I've learned that lesson well. It should not happen again. I won't say "ain't gonna" 'cause that's not correct speakin' as my grandma used to say. Shelby.

NOTE: After retyping Debbie's notes I cannot help but feel this issue is hers alone to speak.

From Debbie's Heart to Yours (March 10, 2012)

Thank you to everyone for lifting up prayer for Toney. He had to leave Nicaragua and go back to Georgia some 3-4 weeks ago. He was having extreme pain and needed to see his doctor(s) in an effort to get some relief. Thankfully (praise moment!) he recovered and was able to come back down after a needed rest.

When Toney left, I stayed behind as we had a group from New Creation Christian Academy coming down for their first trip to Nicaragua. I was not alone though. John Raulins was here helping and so was Rey. Rey is a Nicaraguan we met some time ago. He is a former English teacher and now works as a tour guide, which works out well for handling groups. Together we three led the group for that week and it was amazing to say the least. We felt really blessed to have such a wonderful group. I pray God worked in their hearts like he did mine that week.

Harvest Park Baptist Church in Newnan came and stayed a week with us. They came prepared to make some things happen and they followed through like champs. Stoves and sinks here are made of concrete and way beyond the means of a lot of families. Their group provided sinks and stoves for several families in the area. For a family so poor they sleep on boards, they blessed them greatly with beds, a sink, stove, table, chairs, and food. Pablo (our property guard) got his house finished by this group as well. He and his family are so proud of their home.

Thank you and bless you to everyone for all your hard work that week. Wow!

We got to really see first hand the faith of the families here in our village, Padre Ramos, as well as further confirmation that we should be here.

One of the first nights a mother walked into our camp and brought her son with her. He had a huge tumor growing out of the side of his head. She had no money for the bus ride to get him to Managua for more testing, so we were able to meet her need for her child.

Another night that week a dad came running into the camp saying his daughter could not breathe. So Rey jumped into our truck and got her to the hospital. She is doing much better now.

We have a friend in the village named Victoria. She is 76 yrs old and had to go to the hospital. They gave her a blood transfusion and when she was strong enough to come home we were able to meet some of her needs. She supports herself working as a caretaker for a local property owner, but because she is sick her employer won't pay her and is trying to force her to leave. She

has no husband or children or any other means to make any money. Her faith is like none I have ever seen before. The first time I met her she only had a piece of bread in her little room, but it didn't stop the joy in her heart from screaming out. She puts all her faith in the Lord each day. She prayed with Rosa and I for about 20 min. that day. She has touched my life in so many ways and God is using her to teach us about faith.

Little Victor is doing wonderful! He is learning Bible verses and is with us from morning to night. God is using Victor to teach us about love and I never grow tired of the lessons he's teaching. He is the most giving child I have ever seen! He has nothing, but gives whatever he gets from us North Americans to the other children. Meaghan Biggio is spearheading an effort to raise money for Victor's high school education. High school here is beyond public education and is not free. Hopefully by the time he is of that age he will have money for tuition, books, fees, and whatever else he will need.

Pastor Francisco and Veronica are doing great. The bathrooms at the Church are finished!! Thank you Lord!! We recently purchased a new motorcycle for Pastor Francisco. Several other projects are under way and completion should be coming soon.

Hebrews 12:2-3 : Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of God. Consider him, who endured such opposition from sinful men, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.

As I write this, Toney and I are here in Managua ready to pick up a group from Troy University. This is their first time to Nicaragua and we are so excited to spend the week with them.

Toney is pain free! We are thanking God everyday!!

Debbie

Recommended Prayer List:

Health and wellbeing for Toney and Debbie, John, and Rosa (local young lady)
Teen Bible studies, five nights a week
Children's church, Sunday afternoons
Effectiveness of short term mission groups
The Work in Chinandega, two churches, two pastors, and local outreach
Wellbeing of adolescent girl removed from an abusive home, now in a shelter
Upkeep of the camp facility, addition of ceiling fans to meeting/eating area
Maintenance on the Truck, harsh roads and weather wreak havoc on vehicles
Preparation of new quarters for Toney & Debbie adjacent to camp
Housing for John in Chinandega
Permanent resident status for John, long application process, five (5) year status if done



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