

Making a Difference on Stormy Seas by IBFI Mission Director John Peeples

Many times we find ourselves in perilous situations beyond our control. The storms of life threaten our personal safety as well as our earthly possessions. As we look to God for help and trust Him for deliverance, let us not forget to look and see those around us. While they may appear to be in the same situation as we are, if they are without Christ, their peril is infinitely worse than ours. In Acts 27:24 we have a great example to encourage us to make a difference. The Apostle Paul was a prisoner facing shipwreck when God used him greatly to be a witness and a source of salvation. God's angel told Paul: *"Lo, God hath given thee all them that sail with thee."* (Acts 27:24) May God do the same for those who sail with us.

## Multiple Natural Disasters Pound Central America

## by IBFI Missionary to Guatemala Flo Martin

"We have been the center of several natural disasters. **VOLCANO DE PACAYA**—On May 26th, the Guatemalan Volcano de Pacaya (50 miles from Guatemala City) made a big show of fire & ashes that covered Guatemala City. The explosion blew out a new crater on the south flank. This caused the deaths of one reporter & three children. **SANTIAGUITO VOLCANO**—Prior to that, on April 26th, the Santiaguito Volcano in Quetzaltenango (homes of IBFI missionaries Flo Martin and Daniel & Tammy Coates) emitted two strong noises in the early morning & ashes turned the sky dark for 30 minutes. Schools were closed for a week. **HURRICANE AGATHA**—Just when we were digging out of the ashes, storm Agatha hit with lots of rain, which was disastrous. Quetzaltenango, one of the most affected areas, was besieged by mud. In Cantel, where I work, they were without water for a month because of broken pipes. Many people lost their farmland, houses, & crops (tortillas come from the big corn crops). Villages everywhere became isolated when roads & bridges were washed out. At least four communities of the port of San Jose were cut off. Only helicopters could reach these affected areas. The highway to the coast was one of the most affected by the Agatha storm. It is one of the most commercial highways & was blocked by Michatoya River. Hundreds of Quetzaltecos were looking for help & shelter. Then **HURRICANE ALEX** started to pound us."

**Charles & Connie Nixon (Northern Indian Tribes)**—It doesn't seem like 32 years, but on July 5, 1978, I first arrived in North Dakota on a mission trip. On this initial trip, God enabled me to lead seven Indian souls to Christ on two reservations in the US & Canada. Our ministry is, and always has been, a ministry of soul-winning & teaching converts to reach others. One young lady approached me at her grand-mother's funeral to thank me for leading her to the Lord several years ago. Knowing the Lord has enabled her to straighten up her life. Bro. Ray White Tailfeather reports that his people are showing real spiritual growth. He is continuing to teach a group of young men who show promise of being leaders in their church. Looking back, the Lord has blessed us tremendously. Three churches have been established & many souls saved. I have been able to train two native pastors. Another young man saved under our ministry is pastor of a church in Alabama. I can't thank you enough for your prayers & support through the years. • Please pray for Bro. Jimmy Harris as he raises funds to replace his building & for his work at Devil's Lake. Please pray for our native pastors, Bro. White Tailfeather & David Boyd.

Steve & Mary Earlywine (Mexico)—We have seen 10 saved & 12 new visitors. Over the past few months, the mission has held Dia de Nino which is a special day for the children. 40 children & nine adults attended. Mother's Day saw nine mothers with 34 in total. On Fathers Day we had baptisms & the Lord's Supper, also Vacation Bible School & a wedding. Our first youth meeting saw over 104 in attendance. One young man was saved & 23 other decisions were made to better their lives. We had questions from the Bible & skits put on by the girls. • Mary has her new hearing aids & they are working great. Thank you for helping with her need. Please pray for our safety as we go to & from the mission in Salinas Victoria.

**Melissa Houston (Children of Mexico)**—I think summertime is my busiest season. We are preparing for VBS, which will be held in the middle of July. I will be helping with four-year-olds, and am also in charge of the puppet team. I am looking forward to it! I will be helping with another VBS which will be held in one of the church member's homes. Please pray that the kids who attend will accept Christ as their Savior, the One who died to pay the price for our sins. I'm so glad he died for me!

Mark & Tricia Haynes (Navajo Nation)—Our new grandson (Joel Nathan Haynes, Jr.), son of our son Joel & Fabi, is healthy & well. Fabi is doing just great. She gets the "you don't look like you just had a baby " comment all the time. Now, Joel, he looks like he just went through labor. • Kelaiah is a little girl who had been coming on our Kinlichii route for some time. She trusted Christ & was baptized. Her dad came to the service & looked to be in a lot of pain. He came forward & was dealt with by Bro. Hollifield. He told him he had been in a fight & run over by a car. Ryan (Kinlichii's dad) said he was tired of living that way, repented of his sins, & was baptized with his daughter. • Recently, we had 108 in the Sunday morning service. • We saw 52 saved at the Lukachukai VBS & 17 at the Ganado VBS! **Ted & Karin Johnson (San Antonio, TX)**—We were blessed by the wonderful messages & songs of the IBFI Spring Fellowship Meeting last month. • My goal is to walk without my brace on my leg & be able to have complete mobility & function in my right arm, hand & leg. My other goals are not to use a cane when I walk & to drive again. • The Corinthians Baptist Church (Iglesia Bautista Corintios) is a small church with a new pastor, Bro. Jose Luis Herrera. Bro. Manuel Ortiz, pastor of the First Mexican Fundamental Baptist Church informed us that the new church needed help. The new church is in the process of building a kitchen & fellowship hall. Please pray that the job is completed. Also, the ladies have started a prayer meeting every Sat. Karin helps with the piano music & sings specials. Please pray for additional funds for our medical bills, new financial support, & our health.

**Daniel & Tammy Coates (Guatemala)**—We have moved into the new building that the Lord has allowed us to rent. We've met many folks in the new neighborhood and have seen several of them saved during the past two months. Among them are Yoselin & Yulisa whose Catholic parents have not yet allowed them to come to church, but they did allow us to present them with BEAMS Bibles in Spanish, one donated by the Harrigans of Slidell, LA, & the other from the Simmons of El Dorado, AR. Thank you so much for your donations of these Bibles. • In June, we enjoyed a visit from Tammy's parents & brother. We took them to see some Mayan ruins in Northern Guatemala where I had the opportunity to lead our guide, Jose, to Christ. • Also we want to let you know that Nohelia, Alexandra's sister (who we mentioned in our last letter), trusted Christ as her Savior! Thank you for your prayers & faithful support.

**Ron & Kathy Valerio (Honduras)**—The Lord has been good to us by giving us a safe & smooth transition as we begin a time of furlough. This is our first official furlough since our arrival on the Island of Hispaniola in 2001! We are in the States to raise much needed support. We had the privilege of attending our sending church's (Victory Baptist Church in Weatherford, TX) annual missions conference. The theme was "Before It's Too Late." We appreciate Victory and its faithful commitment to worldwide missions. Fall Schedule—We are scheduled to be in the Midwestern states starting in Sept. We still have a good number of open dates. Please let us know if you would like a visit to hear our report. We would consider it an honor & privilege to be in your church. • Our focus is with the most recent work, Iglesia Bautista Calvario. Bro. William reports that the believers remain faithful & new folks are attending every week. An adult visitor accepted the Lord as personal Savior during the Gospel invitation last week. Bro. William's vehicle broke down & is too costly to repair. Please pray the Lord would provide a dependable van for William. He uses the vehicle to pick up an average of 16 people each Sunday & Wednesday. If you know of anyone who might donate a vehicle, please e-mail us at katvalerio@yahoo.com or phone 817-768-7554.

**Daniel & Michelle Jones (Mexico)**—Michelle was in the hospital for the fifth time this year. This time it is because of Thyphoid Fever! The flooding of the metropolitan area due to the recent storms contaminated the entire area's water supplies. We were careful at home to use only filtered water, but we think she contracted it at the dentist's office. Though we have both been to the dentist, only she got sick. She was released on Friday, July 16th. Please pray for us because all of these hospital visits have put a dent in our finances. Though we have good insurance, we have to pay deductibles & co-pays. Thank you deeply for your prayers for Michelle. • At Vacation Bible School, we had 15 saved in two days. There was an average of 250 (in two days) in attendance. As usual, the adult class is the largest of all. • We praise the Lord for Chuy & Norma Lozano, #50 & 51 of our Bible institute. Both come from a life of alcohol & drug addiction. They were saved & baptized in 1995. They started studying in the institute in Sept. of 2003 & graduated in August of 2006. Chuy is a tremendous soul winner & enthusiastic servant of the Lord. On Oct. 29, 2006, Bethesda Baptist Church ordained him into the gospel ministry. They are the fourth missionary family sent out by Bethesda. By 2007, they were working with the Hispanic in NYC . Now they are seeing around 40 in Sunday School & supporting four missionaries! Due to a big paperwork fiasco, they were unable to spend their deputation time in Mexico to raise support. Their current support has dwindled to nothing. We are asking that you prayerfully consider him for support. If you can, they would deeply appreciate it. You can sent support through the IBFI missions office with a notation, "For Chuy Lozano." Pastor Lozano is definitely worth all we can do for him.

## Maintaining Health On the Mission Field Inexpensively with Garlic by IBFI Missionary to Guatemala Tammy Coates

Since our family first arrived on the mission field in 2002, it has been my goal to learn ways to keep my family healthy and treat illnesses at home with natural remedies and nutrition. I have been amazed and delighted to discover many herbs that God created "for the service of man." Among the greatest and most versatile of those is garlic. Garlic has wonderful antibacterial, antiviral, and antifungal properties. It is excellent medicine for colds and coughs, flu, and sinus infections, as well as intestinal parasites and bacterial infections. Garlic may be prepared in a variety of ways, a few of which I will suggest in the following: **RAW** – Half a clove of garlic may simply be chopped into pill-sized pieces and swallowed with water, three times a day or more. Garlic works most effectively when it is used fresh and raw, and this is the quickest, easiest way to use it. **MAKE AN INFUSION** – Chop up three or four cloves, and put them into a quart of boiling-hot water, remove from heat, cover and steep for 30 minutes. Strain out the garlic pieces, and the infusion is ready to use. For colds and flu, squeeze the juice of a fresh lemon into your garlic infusion, pour some into a mug and sweeten it with honey. Store the rest in a quart jar for your patient to sip on throughout the day. **MAKING OIL** – Start with a small sterile jar (I use a baby food jar). Fill it to the very top with cold-pressed olive oil. Add a clove of garlic, peeled and scored or cut into chunks. Cover tightly, and place it in a cool, dry place for a week or so. Then remove all of the garlic, and the oil is ready to use. A few drops of Grapefruit Seed Extract (available at health food stores) may be added to increase the shelf life of your garlic oil. Good health

Independent Baptist Fellowship International (IBFI) Mission Agency 724 N. Jim Wright Fwy Fort Worth, TX 76108 817-367-342 missionoffice@ibfi.us <sup>10</sup>And after he had seen the vision, immediately we endeavoured to go into Macedonia, assuredly gathering that the Lord had called us for to preach the gospel unto them. <sup>11</sup>Therefore loosing from Troas, we came with a straight course to Samothracia, and the next day to Neapolis; <sup>12</sup>And from thence to Philippi, which is the chief city of that part of Macedonia, and a colony: and we were in that city abiding certain days. <sup>13</sup>And on the sabbath we went out of the city by a river side, where prayer was wont to be made; and we sat down, and spake unto the women which resorted thither. **Acts 16:10-13**