

# **GOOD SAMARITAN** BAPTIST MISSION, INC.

"A Mission with Compassion"

Continuing the Legacy!





/goodsamaritanmission

P.O. Box 430 - Villa Rica, Ga - 30180 770-459-4058 - <u>office@goodsamaritan.ms</u> - www.goodsamaritan.ms



#### Dear Friends and Supporters,

I've always said that Grandma had a gift for writing letters and she truly did. Because of that, I have been nervous about writing this newsletter because it's the first one that I've written on my own, but Grandma always said that she tried to write from her heart, so I'll try to do the same.

During these past 6 months since my grandma went to be with Jesus in Heaven, I have been reminded of Matthew 7:25 which says "And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock." I have been reminded that my grandparents truly built this ministry on a rock, which is our Lord Jesus Christ. That is why our ministry continues. God has shown us how He is still in control and He has continued to provide. This has been a learning process for me, but I'm thankful for it.

Before going into ministry news, I want to tell you what has happened in my personal life. Most of you probably know but this past December 17<sup>th</sup>, I married the most amazing man I've ever met and my best friend, Arold Mejía. I met Arold in our high school. He lived in our dorms and had a sponsor through the Opportunity of a Lifetime program. We both graduated high school in 2008 and we started dating in 2010. He went on to college to study law and graduated as a lawyer last year.



My grandma came to love Arold and she was waiting for him to graduate so we could marry. She knew it was coming soon. Arold is now working with us as a lawyer for the mission although he helps me in every area of the work besides legal work. I think it's amazing that God gave me someone who grew up in this work and benefited from it because Arold loves this mission as much as I do. He is passionate about our students and does all he can to help them in their personal relationships with the Lord. Through him, I have seen God's love for me and I've seen how God has taken care of me since taking my grandma home. God gave me a husband that loves Jesus first and then he loves me. I wouldn't have it any other way! Now we work side by side, doing everything together, serving our God together and I know that my grandma would be so happy. I can't thank God enough for taking care of me and I'm excited to see what He has in store for Arold and I together.



Since our last newsletter, we have had graduations, Christmas, school starting and many other things. Our Bible Institute had 6 men to graduate last November and 8 of our pastors were ordained. We had the blessing of having Pastor Kelly Burton from First Baptist Church in Alba, Texas to preach at the graduation. It was very touching to see those who were being ordained shedding tears as others laid hands on them to pray for them as they take another big step in the ministry. God has blessed us with pastors who are passionate about winning souls just as my grandpa was.



Six Bible School graduates and 8 pastors to be ordained behind them.

Tears of a pastor as Bro. Kelly lays hands on him in prayer in this next step of his ministry.







Our kindergarten graduation had 60 beautiful children dressed in white caps and gowns and golden stoles. They looked like angels as they walked down the aisle with their parents. I love it that we have these kids under our wings at such an early age to teach them about Jesus! They are all looking forward to moving in their new building. We have 105 kindergarten students this year and they all say "That is my castle! That is where I'm going to school!" We want to have their "castle" ready as soon as possible and they plan on dressing up as princes and princesses for the inauguration of the kindergarten. We hope to finish the flooring and put in the doors and windows and have it ready for them in about a month. The whole building won't be 100% finished yet but it will be enough to open it for school. We still need more funds to completely finish. It is has been a huge project and we want to see it cross that finish line.

If you wonder why it looks like a castle or a fort, my grandpa designed our school buildings that way over 25 years ago. When he designed and built our high school and even put "cannons" up on the walls, he said, "we took this place from the devil, and we're not giving it back!" The Bible tells us in Psalm 18:2, "The Lord is my rock, and my **fortress**, and my deliverer; my God, my strength, in whom I will trust; my buckler, and the horn of my salvation, and my high tower."



That is why we kept the castle design. My grandpa built both our high school and elementary school by faith and this kindergarten is no exception. If God touches your heart to help us in this last phase of construction, it would be such a blessing because we still need to put in doors, finish the windows, put in the playground, and finish our towers. Thank you so much to all who have helped us get to this point because we are almost there!!! Please pray for the completion of this project!!





Our Elementary School had over 80 students to graduate from 6<sup>th</sup> grade. It was exciting at our high school graduation because we had our biggest graduating class ever: 140 graduates! God has truly blessed us with kids. I was thinking the other day about the responsibility we have in having approximately 1300 students in our classrooms every day. Some of those that live in our dorms (about 250) live with us 24 hours a day. We have the opportunity to introduce them to Jesus and teach them about His love every single day; 1300 students who will one day grow up and have children of their own. The biggest blessing is that we have already seen how God has changed their lives and now we have graduates all over the world, with good jobs, families, and the best thing of all, serving God! I love our schools!



Christmas was bittersweet for me but it was still a very happy time! I missed my grandma so much. She loved Christmas and she loved when it was time to start buying toys to take to kids who would never experience Christmas or even know what Christmas was about. Arold and I and our friends had the

opportunity to go to the hospital and give out toys to kids who were patients there. It was sad but also so fulfilling to see the smile on their faces as we would give them their gift, some candy, and pray with some of the families there. One little boy slid off his bed as he reached his little hand out choosing which toy he wanted. It scared us all but he was fine and was just so happy to get something for Christmas. We told them that we were there in Jesus' name. After leaving the hospital, we went to the streets looking for kids. It was so much fun and I realized how blessed I was to be surrounded with people I could serve God and love others with.













Since then, we have been busy getting ready for school to start. Our offices are always full during January and February as students with their parents come to register. It is also hard because many come that don't have sponsors and are unable to pay tuition so we have to decide if we can take them and then look for a sponsor during the year. I think I'm like my grandma because she always said, "This year I'm not doing it. I'm not going to accept any more without sponsors. We cannot afford it." That's what she would say every year and end up doing the opposite, but God always provided and we would find sponsors for them. I found myself doing the same thing! It's hard to turn down students when you know they won't have another opportunity to study in their villages. We thank God that He has provided us with faithful sponsors. We also gave out school supplies to our Opportunity students, which is included in the \$30 a month you send for your child. Just to give you an idea of how much school supplies we had to have for all our students, we bought approximately 19,000 notebooks!! This is besides other things, such as pens, pencils, erasers, sharpeners, rulers, crayons, etc. I want to thank every one of you who has taken that step of faith to provide a Christian education for our students. I know that you are not here and you don't see them every day but I can tell you that you are changing their lives and their futures and the lives of their families. I see it every day. You are planting a seed in their lives and God will see to it that that seed will grow and flourish and give fruit!







I know that this has been long but there is one more exciting thing I want to tell you. Most of you know Mario Sanchez if you've been to Honduras. He is one of our pastors and our bus driver for the groups that come to visit us from the States. We have a tent that will seat 500 people that my grandpa used a long time ago when he went from village to village to have tent revivals. He would use these revivals to present the Gospel in that village. The tent has been in storage for the past 20 years without use. Mario came to us sometime in November and told us that God had laid it on his heart to get the tent back out and go to Comayagua, which is a big city on the other side of the capital, and hold a 30-day tent revival! Each week a different group of pastors are going to evangelize in the city by day and hold the services and preach by night. So far we have had reports of about 20 salvations just in the first 10 days!! One of the young Bible students has already felt the calling the stay in Comayagua to raise the church after the revival is over. God is doing great things here in Honduras! It is almost like we have gone back in time to the old days when my grandpa did the same thing in the beginning! Help us pray that God will touch hearts and do great things in this revival and others that will come afterwards.



God has not stopped working here and He is continuing to do great things. He is teaching us that He is still in control and we are just instruments to be used in His kingdom! We are all a part of this ministry in different ways. I want to thank every sponsor, donor, supporter, prayer warrior, pastor, and every individual who has had a part in our ministry whether by financial support, by lifting us up in prayer, or by coming to visit us. You are as much a part of this ministry as we are and together, we are expanding God's kingdom, preaching the Gospel, and teaching and making disciples. The purpose of every one of our ministries is to win souls for Jesus whether it is by feeding them, giving them an education, reaching them through radio, etc. Together, let's continue being a light in this dark world and loving others because Jesus loved us first. Keep us in your prayers and remember that you are all part of our Good Samaritan family.

Love in Christ,

Stephany Tyson-Mejia Good Samaritan Baptist Mission, Inc.



# Saved and Baptismal Report January – February 2017 (see below for 2016 totals)

	HONDURAS	NICARAGUA	TOTAL
Saved	114	225	339
Baptized	28	33	61



## A WORD FROM BROTHER RANDY BELL

Please allow me to introduce myself. Mary and I have been married for 43 years. We have three children, Daniel, Amanda, and Lori. They are married and live near us and are in church each Sunday. We have seven grandchildren (and I mean grand)! I have pastored three Baptist churches for over 36 years. I recently retired from Lupton Drive Baptist Church in Chattanooga, Tennessee, with 20 years and 9 months of service at this church. We live near the church and plan to leave our membership there.

I have known Bob and Joan Tyson since 1980. At each church I pastored, I called Brother Bob to come and present the work of Good Samaritan Baptist Missions to our congregations. Brother Bob departed for Heaven in 2007. In the summer of 2012, Sister Joan Tyson asked me to be the Vice President in response to many pastors and churches asking the question, "Who will lead the mission when you depart for Heaven?" Just a few months after the board had installed me to be the Vice President, Sister Joan discovered that she had cancer. Four years later, Sister Joan departed for Heaven to receive her reward and surely heard the words, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant." She and Brother Bob were truly servants of God who did His will.

On October 8, 2016, the Board of Directors of Good Samaritan Baptist Missions met to determine future leadership. During this meeting the Board of Directors asked me to be the President. I asked that Stephany Tyson be installed as the Executive Vice President. She truly has a heart for the mission and the work of God. The office of the Executive Vice President is to execute the will and wishes of the Board of Directors. I will do my best to serve in the position of President for the good of the mission and the many, faithful, hard working Christians who give their hard earned wages to see the vision of Bob and Joan Tyson fulfilled. In Joan's last newsletter, she stated. "I explained to them that when God calls me, He won't be calling Good Samaritan Baptist Mission. I am NOT the mission. This mission, first of all, belongs to God and then to the thousands who have had and still have a part for over fifty years. Good Samaritan Baptist Mission is a miracle! Just ask anyone who visits the field. How could the Tyson family have ever done this alone? It is YOUR mission and my prayer is that you will continue the love and support for God's work even if He calls me first."

Stephany and Arold were married in December, and they have been doing a wonderful job. Arold is a preacher and a lawyer. He came through the Opportunity of a Lifetime Program of Good Samaritan Baptist Mission. He is a great example of the work that Bob and Joan Tyson had as a vision. The mission is moving forward. We are seeing souls saved. Thank you for your monthly and yearly support. We look to God for all His help in the mission. I am

Your New Friend, J. Randy Bell, President



# Joan Tyson Sunday September 10, 2017

In the month of September, Sister Joan was born and departed for Heaven. We request every supporting church to receive an offering for The Feed the Hungry Fund on this Sunday. Sister Joan Tyson truly had a heart to feed the hungry in Honduras and Nicaragua. Can you and your church join us to feed those who are hungry?





## **Vacation Bible School Penny Offering**

Please consider this Summer during your church's Vacation Bible School Offering to contribute to The Opportunity of a Lifetime Program of GSBM. Have a contest between the boys and girls during each session and see at the end of the week who has given the most. Teach the children of the church the blessing of giving to others, and to missions. Our home office can get you more information on how to help us with our Opportunity of a Lifetime Program.

### **Preparing Your Will?**

Please consider including Good Samaritan Baptist Missions in your final wishes. The Bible in Hebrews 11:4 tells of Abel and his faith which resulted in he being dead yet speaketh. It is simple. Speak with your lawyer or write down your wishes and explain them to your relatives. Those that honor God; God will honor them.



TOTAL SAVED AND BAPTIZED FOR HONDURAS, NICARAGUA, AND RADIO IN 2016			
Saved	6087		
Bantized	309		