



SERVING GOD IN BELIZE,
CENTRAL AMERICA

*"Jesus came to seek and to
save what was lost."*

-Luke 19:10

June 2009

Dear Family & Friends,

The busy summer season is upon us and here I am already behind (and I can't blame it on the earthquake we had)! But it has been a great spring here in Belize. God has been doing some awesome things here and this is what has been happening to the Maas Family:

- The Baptist Training Center hosted several mission groups from the US, the Belize Bible School for Pastors, an Easter retreat, Abstinence Training, and a Women's Retreat. And the summer is just starting with a non-stop calendar until September. God has taught us a lot about hospitality management and being servant leaders.
- Eric joined Rotary International Club and is greatly involved in their service projects and meetings. He has been able to meet many leaders and professionals of this area and really find out the true needs of this country.
- Julie's prayer group has continued to have faithful ladies that come each week to gather in prayer for one another and have a short Bible study (see picture below). They are sharing more and demonstrating a passion for God's Word and receiving daily text messages with scripture. They are really starting to see the power of prayer when we call each other in times of need!
- It's hard to believe it has almost been a year since we've moved. The children wave now as we go by in recognition of our faces, the people are gracious when our Spanish is still in need of work, yet the surrounding community is visibly exhibiting ways of helping one another and providing for each other's needs through the encouragement to lend a hand.
- We've been to a funeral, baptism, birthday party, and even been asked to attend a graduation and be a godparent! So it has been exciting to be invited to these special occasions and feel a part of this community and country. Eric and Ciera are a great duet of singing the National Anthem of Belize.
- Twice we have held a movie night here at the camp for the kids in the neighborhood and families to come to. They have all enjoyed "Cars" and "Finding Nemo" on a big sheet thanks to a projector.
- Eric is busy with continued work and maintenance at the camp as well as other needs that arise in the community. He is a taxi driver for many! And Julie is helping more in a simple medical capacity and making home visits for spiritual encouragement and support. God is also fine tuning us in those unexpected "Showing-up-at-the-door-with-needs-Ministry" (or divine appointments as we like to call them).
- Ciera turned 6 on May 18th and joined the Belizean way of partying, having a piñata! She was able to have a homemade princess one. Lots of friends from the village came here to celebrate. Now we are trying to help her accomplish the challenge of learning to ride her new bike....with no training wheels!
- Josiah discovered that somersaults and crawling out of his pack-n-play meant it was time for a "Big boy bed." He is understanding a lot of Spanish now, likes to flush every toilet when he sees one, he doesn't say "dog" but pants like one when he sees the camp dogs, he is our fearless swimmer, and is my "Forest Gump" by running

everywhere he goes. (So we just say, "Run...Forest, Run.....!") And he has now joined a preschool 3 days a week and is really enjoying his new Cuban Male teacher who is teaching bilingually.

- Eric and Julie continue to get to know the locals and learn of the greatest needs in this country. God has led us to help financially through Seek Serve Save in several schools via construction materials and school supplies, a microloan, hospital bills for our little friend Junter who had brain surgery, devotional materials and Bibles, needs at an orphanage, food for desperately needing families, and math books for a remote village.

Many, many thanks are for our family and friends for the consistent donations, emails, packages, and prayers. We **COULD NOT DO THIS WITHOUT YOUR HELP!!!** We appreciate each and every one of you. As you have served us, it has empowered us to continue to serve on a global level with enthusiasm and strength. From the bottom of our hearts, thank you. We look forward to coming to the States June 27th-July 13th!!

***** Prayer Requests:**

-For Belizeans to seek God's face and a true relationship with Christ. A spirit of slumber and deception is really a plague here.

-For those in southern Belize still recovering from the earthquake a few weeks ago

-For our family's health and protection

-Continued wisdom on the use of Seek Serve Save funds and how to serve the people of Belize God's way

All of our love & appreciation,

Eric, Julie, Ciera & Josiah

PO Box 105 Belmopan, Belize Central America

PO Box 14902 New Bern, NC 28561 (checks can be sent to this address written to: Seek Serve Save)

Online donations: www.seeksservesave.org via PayPal

See below for photos (Left to Right):

-Eric inducted into Rotary Int'l

-Ciera's 6th birthday party

-Playmate, Javier, at his baptism, wanted to take a picture with his friend, Josiah

-Julie & Josiah snuggling

-Julie and friend, Tamara, cave tubing

-Josiah playing in a laundry bucket

-Playing at a pool along Hopkins beach, BZ

-Eric coming out of a cave on a tube

-Eric playing with Belizeans kids

-Maas Family at Mayan Ruin, Altun Ha

-Ministry Work with Oakmont Baptist Church from NC (VBS @ preschool, Bible Study, and new Outhouse/shower)



*"Whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but
whoever loses his for me will find it."
-Matthew 16:25*