



“Jesus came to seek and to save what was lost.”

-Luke 19:10

March 2009 Update

Dear Family and Friends,

Greetings from Belize, Central America! It is sunny and showing the beginning signs of hot weather and the dry season. It has already been in the mid-90's and the hottest is yet to come. The Maas family has been super busy with many activities at the Baptist Training Center as well as other ministries (see pictures at bottom). Here are a few things God has been at work at in our lives:

- Several groups from the US and Belize have been here at the Training Center for mission work, Bible Schools, teacher's retreats, many working at orphanages, and other activities as well. We spend a great deal of time on email communicating with churches, especially developing relationships with fellow Cooperative Baptist Fellowship (CBF-our partnering mission agency) churches.
- Management of the Training Center is getting easier for us with continued development of our leadership skills. To add to the center's current family of pets, two new German shepherd puppies have been adopted, Zoe and JoJo.
- Seek Serve Save funds have been able to help with food needs, a ministry center and school under construction, the renovations of a home for a poor family, and a microloan.
- Time has been spent doing multiple things for a young boy named Junter who underwent brain surgery 2 weeks ago who lives in a very poor village. He is recovering well and has a father who is teary-eyed due to immeasurable gratitude and a spiritual change that has occurred within him.
- Julie's prayer group, and now a Bible study that has developed out of it, is showing great interest and growth spiritually. She sends out text messages each day with a scriptural passage to help grow in their journey with God. Little changes are taking place and they are beginning to sense what a relationship is like with God and the power of prayer.
- Eric has stayed busy working on new water towers at the Training Center to help accommodate large groups during the dry season. He has also joined the Rotary Club and enjoys meeting many leaders and other professionals who have the same passion to help others.

*On a personal note....*

- We are all healthy, praise God!!!! God is doing more “in us” than “through us” on this spiritual journey. But as a family we are finally in a rhythm and have figured out how to accommodate each other's needs which is a huge accomplishment.
- Ciera (almost 6) is still our sweet, strong-willed child that desires much attention but is a joy to be around. She is in the top of her class and her reading is really improving each month. She is “all girl” who enjoys her dance class, her nails painted, and having her hair fixed in all sorts of ways. She also enjoyed her first Belizean birthday party and piñata. And her Creole is getting more fluent than her Spanish!

- Josiah (18 mos) gives us the giggles each day, thanks to his big sister. His hand goes swatting at you when he's mad, he puckers his lips to give you kisses, and can get on our dining room table faster than you can count! He loves to go down a waterslide with a belly laugh at the end. And he points to the TV when he wants his "Elmo-fix."

Our Prayer Requests:

- ❖ For Ciera—who is quite successful academically but remains a behavioral challenge to her teacher (and parents).
- ❖ For wisdom/discernment—regarding Seek Serve Save funding opportunities, management for this center, and how we relate with locals.
- ❖ For the daily desire to seek God—to help us have the yearning to have the quiet, devotional time that is so paramount to our work yet challenging to discipline.

We would love to have your financial help for the following projects:

- Light of the Valley School (the greatest need within the Baptist Association of Belize) construction of another building where overcrowding significant problem---estimated cost of this project is \$15,000 US
- Medical bills, Follow-up appointments, and potential future ultrasounds/MRI's from Junter's brain surgery---still need an additional \$2,000 US
- Bibles, children's books, devotionals and any other resources in Spanish

*On behalf of the entire Maas Family, we would like to thank you again for all your prayers, encouraging emails, packages, and financial support. We are grateful beyond words! We love you all dearly and miss you immensely. Please stay in touch and see our updates on [www.seekserve-save.org](http://www.seekserve-save.org) and also on [www.BelizeBTC.org](http://www.BelizeBTC.org). Thanks again for all the help with those who continue to use Food Lion cards and surf the web using [www.goodsearch.com](http://www.goodsearch.com). Eric is now on [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com) if you would like to communicate as well this way.*

Our Address:

PO Box 105 Belmopan, Belize Central America (no zip code needed) 011-501-610-0212

In the States:

PO Box 14902 New Bern, NC 28561 Any checks can be made out to *Seek Serve Save* or online via our website (using PayPal)

We love you all and hope to see some of you when we return June 27th-July 13<sup>th</sup>!

*Eric, Julie, Ciera, & Josiah Maas*

p.s. See below for pictures



**\*\*** When it said in the Bible that those who leave houses, brothers or sisters, fathers or mothers, children or fields to follow me will get a hundred times more.....”(Matt 19:29), we have had many “hundredfold” moments seeing God at work, His beauty in creation, and the joy in the eyes of those we have served.