



CHRIST IS THE ANSWER CENTRAL AMERICA | HONDURAS 2010 MARCH NEWSLETTER - Page 1-2

Dear Friends and Brethren,

We find that life is full of changes and unpredictable transformations. Sometimes we could even compare our lives with the clouds in the sky, since they change form constantly; disappear and then reappear, and so are circumstances and our emotions, we don't have control over them. Nevertheless in life, regarding our inner man, the essence of our being, is something that will be determined by our will through decisions and attitudes. In other words, we are the heroes in the play, when it comes to decide our eternal destiny; we influence and affect the destiny of others and we determine what kind of persons we will be for eternity.

It is a too big of a responsibility, which we cannot evade, to be or not to be.

One of the changes however, that is definitely not under our control, is the process of getting older. Goethe, the well-known German author, said: "Getting old" catches us all by surprise. As we age, we realize that our image in the mirror does not correspond to that image that we used to see during our years of youth. We are surprised to see gray hair, lines and wrinkles in ones face, in spite of the fact that the restlessness and the desires of our youth are still there such as, the desire to love and feel loved, the desire to win and to conquer, to express ourselves and to do something significant with our lives. Just the fact that I'm writing this letter is an example of that.

I am now 59 and Laila is 56, so we are getting closer to 60 years both of us. However we feel we want to be where the action is and take part of it and not just sit around and observe what others are doing. Our mothers are both older that 80 and we are thankful to the Lord for the possibility to spend a couple of months with them, Laila in Sweden and I in El Salvador.

Laila's mother Tyra could no longer manage by herself at home due to Alzheimer and had to move to an old folks home. My mother is still at home.

The team in Honduras had been working as normal during our absence, as all the teams of "Christ is the Answer", with evangelism and meetings in the big tent. Of course, after so many years in Central America, there is able leadership that can take the responsibility to guide, cultivate and minister life.

One of the leading families in the team, Carlos and Gris with little Paul, have had to leave the ministry in Honduras, because of personal circumstances. However, their lives and their example are and will be a powerful influence in the community in Mexico where they live now. The same is true for so many ex members of our team here.

My sister Michelle came to El Salvador during the month of February to help taking care of our mother. I then took advantage of this time to travel to Costa Rica for 10 days and to Venezuela for 9 days. Certainly not only in these countries, but also in the whole world, the doors are open. The need is for workers, leaders and disciples.

It was the first time in my life to visit Costa Rica. The bus from El Salvador arrives the same day; that is about 12 hours trip. I stayed with Pastor Mauricio Castro. He and his wife Francis was part of the team in El Salvador during 7 years. They now have a beautiful congregation, full of young people, who also felt challenged by the messages I was able to share and our conversations.

Costa Rica is a country that has had peace for so many years. There is hardly any illiteracy. It is so peaceful that I ask myself if the Christians are able to hear the cry of the multitudes in the world that need the love of God.

I was invited to participate in a baptism, which we celebrated in a river with crystal clear water and it was a beautiful experience.

We are hoping that part of the Mexican team is coming to visit us in Honduras the second week of April and during this time we could send the band and part of our team for an outreach to Costa Rica for maybe 3 months. I believe the church there needs a challenge and to open their eyes to the need of those that are suffering without God and without hope.

My visit to Venezuela was mainly to visit my cousin Raúl Valiente, whom I haven't seen for 37 years. It was like traveling in time. He received me in his home, which is a farm about 25 Kms from Valencia. He and his wife and children were very open to the Gospel. I was able to meet with some Pastors and also with some brethren that have a tent like ours, preaching the Gospel. There is freedom of speech and freedom to preach.

I was thinking that if Karl Marx would resurrect he would be surprised to see how Christianity has survived during so many years and that it is a vital motivating force that gives stability and progress in many countries, independently what government is in charge.

In reality, it is the presence of Christians that makes the difference in a nation, be it our country El Salvador, Honduras or in China, that in spite of that the church has to function underground, we can see the nation of China progressing even if they still have not done all the reforms that we would consider necessities.



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This makes us understand that each one of us can be a protagonist and influence history just as much as the governors of any country. We have the tendency to complain and put the blame for everything that goes wrong on the president or the governing party. However, we should remember that the scripture says that the heart of the King is like the rivers of water that God will direct where He wants. Therefore we should pray for our governors and live a holy life and that will make a difference.

While in Venezuela I saw much poverty. Surprisingly, none of the people that I met complained and some said it was worse before. I was not able to write any emails, as the Internet was too slow. The ATM machines were not functioning and good thing that I had enough cash with me, which was \$60 and 50 Euros. The roads are in bad condition and there is lots of dust. There is lots of traffic and people have learned how to manage without the traffic lights, as many times they are not functioning. There is a shortage of water and the lakes are contaminated.

Could it be that God is dealing with the nation? Whatever it might be, I believe that the time for Venezuela has come and the people are receptive to the Word of God. I left the country with the feeling that somebody should do something.

Laila and I will return to the team in Honduras as soon as she has done her medical check ups and renewed the residence papers. We miss the team and the work.

So, we still want to go on and we don't feel too old for the work of the preaching of the Gospel. In Psalms it says that we can flourish like the palm tree, and even in old age we can continue to give fruit.

A big hug to all,

Pedro Viaud

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