

*If our faith is strong, we should be patient with the Lord's followers whose faith is weak. We should try to please them instead of ourselves. We should think of their good and try to help them by doing what pleases them. (Romans 15:1-2 CEV)*

## Fighting the Good Fight (spiritual enemies)

*Oh, how I would love for you to hear the whole amazing story as told by our dear friend, Josie.*

*Thank you for praying for Josie and her family. For months Marti, Josie's sister, the Garifuna witch, has been saying "I want to get out but I can't. They (the demons) will kill me!" Uncle Santiago kept persuading her to stay with the dugu faith and Marti continued to persecute Josie any way she could.*

*But a few months ago Lorraine, Josie's daughter accepted the Lord. Not long afterwards Josie's Uncle Cady (a witch) and Aunt Mary (a new Christian) were having some serious marital problems. Josie went to visit and, all glory to Jesus, Uncle Cady was saved and their marriage also!*

*Then at God's direction, after much prayer, Josie went to visit Marti two weeks ago. She walked in the door just like old times and greeted her sister warmly. The timing was right and God gave Josie wisdom and words. He gave her courage when the demons began manifesting in ugly ways. Countless times Marti reaffirmed, "I want to get out!" And Josie just stayed and prayed throughout the day.*

*On the next day, Sunday morning, Josie said she was going to church. Marti asked if they could go to a church, Central Assembly of God, that she had attended many years ago. And at the altar call, Josie felt the Lord telling her to go forward. Marti followed her to the altar and gave her life to Jesus.*

*Back at the house, Marti decided she should burn all her witchcraft books. She was nervous and asked Josie to do it but Josie told her, "No, you are following the Lord now. You must do this yourself." And she did.*

*Then shortly after that Uncle Santiago showed up with a bottle of strong rum so he could rub it on Marti and strengthen her in the demonic dugu faith. Marti declined and Josie threw him out. **Praise God!** Josie and Marti are getting lots of persecution these days, and Marti still has a lot to deal with.*

*Please continue to pray for the new Christians: Marti, Cady, Mary and Lorraine. And pray for those left to join the Family, especially Santiago and Lauriano, the remaining witches in the family.*

## More on the Good Fight

I have been praying that God would raise up leaders in my Friday night Youth Bible Study. God has answered right now by speaking to Caleb. He talked to Pastor Salas about conducting "Children's Church" prior to the Saturday night service, and was given Pastor's blessing. So Caleb has been planning his lessons and conducting a half-hour children's church (with our supervision) each Saturday to a group of 5-10 year olds. A song, a Bible story, a memory verse- Caleb plans it all- and is doing very well at it. Please pray that God will raise up more leaders and for a continual anointing on Caleb.

## Fighting the Other Fight (physical enemies)

*First there was that Coral snake about two feet long that I noticed one afternoon in May on our front porch. Providentially, I had seen and studied the little ditty, "Red on yellow, kill the fellow...." so I knew this was a real Coral snake. There was no one else around to help so I decided I would have to take care of it. I thought of "Mamaw" while I grabbed the hoe. I know most Belizean folks would have used a machete but I'm still a "Carolina girl" at heart. That fight was over in the first round. The snake lost.*

*Then came the ticks. Lord forgive me for the times I have complained about having to do the dishes and laundry. These days it is hard to find the time and energy for the regular duties of motherhood due to this battle. This enemy isn't even interesting or charmingly tropical. Not the legendary Army ant; those would actually be quite welcome since I have heard that they "clean your house" of unwelcome insects if you will simply get out of the way for a few hours. This battle has been raging for the past several weeks. Our home and dog, have been seriously invaded by nasty, little, creepy, crawly ticks. Thank God for the big wet/dry vacuum that came with the house. These days tick duty is one of the regular chores. Even Rachel helps flush these bad bugs. I am relieved that very few have bitten us. We're also thankful that it seems we have finally found an insecticide that is working outside the house. (Today it seems I'm battling only hundreds rather than thousands.) I'm praying that it will annihilate the ticks before it kills me. Also, we've found something that seems to be killing the ticks on our poor dog, Black Jack.*

*The heat is our third fight. It is upon us once again. We've had some trouble with our tarp on the roof which lowered the temperature in the house significantly last summer. It gets pretty uncomfortable when it's above 95 inside, and Rachel is getting the heat rash again, but Dennis has found the materials he needs and hopes to have it repaired soon. He is finished with school for the year, so he's got a little more free time, and it is nice to have him home. Please pray for our continued protection from the harsher aspects of this environment.*

### **Resting After the Fight**

*In May, Dennis and I had a couple of lovely days in Placencia, a village on the coast about an hour's drive and a 20 minute boat ride away. The kids stayed with some missionary friends of ours. I walked out into the calm, clear water of the bay and saw a pair of bright orange starfish near my feet – even though I was in water up past my knees! That was a glorious and refreshing moment from the Lord. I was talking to Dennis that evening at dinner; it seems that when I try to arrange to bless myself I usually end up feeling disappointed but when I just try to follow Jesus and obey Him, along the way He has lovely surprises for me.*



**Dennis & Betsy at Placencia**

*It's hard to believe it has been two years since we were in the U.S.A. We miss you all and would love to visit you, but it's just too expensive a trip to make it often. However, we do feel the need for a break, so as soon as the kids are out of school we are planning a family vacation for a week in Mexico, near Cancun. It will be nice to enjoy a swimming pool and air conditioning for a week. Pray that we will receive needed refreshing.*

### **New Fighting Equipment for Equipping**

*Did we tell you??? We have a new addition! Dennis has been packing "Emeralda", our '96 Chevy Blazer, every Friday evening; carrying 12-15 kids to his Bible study in P.G. Well, she's been reliable, but she's been groaning some lately due to the strain, so after much prayer and searching we bought a 1998 Chevy 1 ton pickup truck with our income tax return. With her dual wheels in back, she's a pretty wide ride and not my favorite on some of the narrow, crowded streets of town but big "Bertha" is just what we needed for Friday evenings or anytime we have a crowd to transport.*

*As soon as Dennis finished the repairs she needed to be road-worthy, we loaded her up with 29 people and headed down the dirt road to San Antonio Falls for Daniel's Baptism. I followed with seven more in the Blazer. Dennis had invited the children in his Bible study to go to be baptized as well. And then Pastor Tush asked to bring some people from his church to be baptized too. It was an exciting day as Dennis taught out of Romans Chapter 6 about Baptism to an assembled group from Roman Catholic, Baptist, and Church of God backgrounds. He talked about the three methods of Baptism and the*

symbolism and spiritual significance. And then he invited Daniel to join him and Pastor Tush in the water.



**Bertha taking HS kids to minister to Down's syndrome child**

*Daniel started out, but the rocks were slippery and he fell. Then I took his hand to lead him into the water and we both fell, and of course he wouldn't go into the water after that. However, the Spirit of God moved among the people and nine entered the water to be baptized- some for the first time, some who had only been sprinkled, and some to be re-baptized in the "Living Water". Dennis and Pastor Tush were elated at the response.*

*But "Bertha's" work wasn't done. On the following Sunday she took our family of seven and the Rax family of nine, our Kek'chi' friends, to San Pablo to visit their relatives. Along with us went our homemade movie screen and all of our equipment to show the movie, "The Climb". The Baptist church there has a generator and more than 250 people attended. Dennis taught from Romans Ch. 15:1-2 explaining that the movie was not simply about evangelism, but about how a right relationship with God and with our neighbors, can be used by God to save the lost, strengthen the weak, and restore our souls. Now that school is out we hope to be able to reinforce Scriptural teaching using the many good Christian movies that are available. Please pray for God to direct our path in this movie ministry.*

### **School's Out**

All of my four students successfully completed their first year of high school, although Algebra was a major challenge for them. Maria, a Down's Syndrome child with right hemiplegia,

benefitted from our student's visits. We are expecting four more freshmen next year for a total enrollment of eight. Our four school-aged children were also promoted, and with practically all "A's". Toledo Christian Academy primary school also continues to improve.

This year we ranked academically in the upper 80% of all Belizean schools, regardless of size or budget. Our girls' volleyball team has won back to back National volleyball championships, and the Fast Pitch softball teams I coached took Zone Champion honors (boys), and the girls lost in the National's after winning the Toledo District. We are working to build character by teaching and modeling the word of God. Please pray for our continued success.

But the work is far from done, relationships are still being built, discipleship needs to continue, souls need to be saved, revival needs to happen.

**Wanted:** Three primary school teachers! Successful applicants must have a strong relationship with the Lord. A High School diploma is a requirement. These are unpaid positions so you must have a missionary call and raise financial support. We would be glad to answer any further questions via e-mail. So if you or someone you know have heard the call, start raising your support, and let us know. Perhaps God has prepared a place for you in Belize along with us to minister to the least fortunate of Belize.

Please pray for all of these things.

Once again we thank you all for your financial support, your prayers, and your priceless friendship and encouragement. We love hearing from you, and we are honored to pray for you. May God continue to bless you and your family.

All to the glory of Jesus Christ,  
Dennis and Betsy Steinmetz

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