



CROSSING BORDERS NEWS

January—March 2014 Volume 14, Issue 1



George Hughes speaking to us one Tuesday with Patti's help in translation



God can do mighty things through us when we yield as one body in Christ — like providing new shoes and a chance to go to school

Eggs, beans and manna rice for those who have no way to buy these basics for themselves



New clothes for everyone in the family

Happy 13th Anniversary
Crossing Borders Ministries

Pastors & their wives,
along with ministry
volunteers, joined us to
celebrate the occasion on
Tuesday, March 11



SERVING HIM TOGETHER

by Elfi Register

These first three months of 2014 have been a blur with one event on top of the next. We often describe all that goes on around here as “organized chaos,” and that’s what it’s been at times! One busy Tuesday in February, our “egg man” George Hughes gave us a great word of encouragement, and I’d like to encourage you with it as well.

George always says, “If you love Jesus and call Him Lord, then you’re my brother and my sister. It doesn’t matter what color your skin is or what language you speak or what the name of your church is, we serve the same Lord.” We had just offloaded eggs to all the pastors when George asked if he could share a few words. He reminded us that together we make up the body of Christ. Each of us is called to fulfill our part in doing what God desires in the earth. Some of us are called to preach, or to take care of the people, or to knock on doors. Some, like him, are called to haul food. But whatever part of the body we are, the glory is not ours but the Lord’s.

He took out his pocket knife and opened the blade. “Now you pastors, you’re like the sharp edge of this blade,” he said. “You’re the front line - the business end of this knife, you might say. You go into your communities and bring the word and the provision.” Those like himself who supply the provisions are like the flat of the blade. That part of the blade gives weight and balance so the edge works at its best. But the blade is nothing if there isn’t a handle. That part of the knife is like all those who give the finances, or the donated items, who pray, and who work behind the scenes to make it all possible. Yet the handle has to be directed, it must yield itself to the hand that holds it. And that hand is the Lord. Our part is to yield to His will.

We see this principle at work all the time at CBM. God moves on His people to give in a certain way “in season out of season.” They must follow His prompting or nothing else will happen. It starts when someone has a burden to send something, but they’re not sure we need it. They may call us, but we might not know we need it yet. At the same time, someone else is praying and needing that very thing. That’s why sometimes we make the petition known, and sometimes we wait in expectation for God to supply. It’s not what I can do (in my own strength) but what God can do through me.

For instance, we’ve watched and prayed for years as God prepared a couple for fulltime ministry. They and their children are faithful members of a church in Mexico. But God is calling them to something more. This January they stepped out in faith to lead a mission team to minister in an impoverished neighborhood. Children there can’t go to school because they don’t have shoes. Really, they don’t have much of anything. Now, in December a group of churches sent us a trailer full of new children’s shoes and clothes. A different church sent us pallets of “manna rice” packets. George had extra eggs he had to distribute. The list could go on, but you get the picture. While we were busy sorting and shipping shoebox gifts, the Lord was already putting the “next thing” in motion. It took each person, each group, being obedient to what they were prompted to do, to accomplish the results pictured here! And all the glory is the Lord’s! What a joy it is to serve the Lord together as one body in Christ!

Other News & Updates

Christmas Shoebox DVD's went out in January to all the groups that sent gifts. If you haven't seen it yet, check with your group leaders to schedule a viewing. You'll be blessed!

CBM turned 13 on March 10th, can you believe it! Some of you were with us since the beginning. What a blessing you've been to the poorest of the poor. We celebrated with our volunteers & pastors Tuesday the 11th. It "just so happened" we were joined by Pastor Mac and a mission team from Glen Meadows Baptist, San Angelo, TX. They were a great encouragement to us all.

Ruby Moore, matriarch of our church, passed into eternity on March 23 at the age of 96. She loved missionaries and missions, and we have lost a dear prayer partner. If you were ever in our Sunday services, then you would've met Sister Ruby. She will be missed.

Coming Up in April

April 9-12, CBM will have about 30 YWAM youth from the Alamogordo, NM area here during their Spring break. They will do everything from paint to prayer walk to street dramas in the local parks. We are excited to have them reach out in community ministry, and ask you to keep them, their leadership, and us in prayer.

April 20, it's Resurrection Sunday! Because He lives, we too can live a life of purpose and victory!

THIS IS Love

by Joan Wilson

Jesus said, "Let me give you a new command: love one another. In the same way I loved you, you love one another. This is how everyone will recognize that you are my disciples when they see the love you have for each other." (John 13:34-35 MSG) What a challenge. Do I love others like that? Do you?

They will know us by our love, Jesus said. So why does the world around us seem to think Christians are "haters" instead? Could it be because we can't seem to find common ground with those "other" Christians we can't stand? You know the ones - they're too flashy, or too old-fashioned, or too loud, or too dull, or too something-or-other. Their particular beliefs regarding [insert own pet peeve here] is just unacceptable and somebody needs to set them straight. It's a new wave of, *one says 'I follow Paul' and another 'I follow Apollos.'* (1 Corinthians 3:4). Paul said such behavior is immature, carnal, babyish. Every non-Christian out there can name at least one thing we're against. But they can't tell you what we are for. We dishonor our Lord every time we disrespect and devour another person with our criticism!

Elfi and I have walked 12 years with a woman who gave her life to Christ, fell back into the drug culture, lost every blessing she'd gained, has come back to Christ, and is now trying to rebuild her life. She recently came back to the ministry and to the church because she has seen the two of us love her unconditionally. We loved her even when we knew she lied to us, and worse. It's not always been easy to love her, but oh, how deep the Father's love is for her! We didn't have to judge her or point out her failings, she knew them better than we did. But others have been quick to judge her, condemn her, reject her. She has a hard road ahead, getting other Christians to accept her again. But we are privileged to walk that road beside her!

In the same way, Elfi's girls continue to turn up through Facebook and texting. They don't seem quite ready to come back in the same way as our other friend, but the seeds of God's truth were faithfully sown. We continue to pray for that harvest. One time they spent a whole month reading the book of 1 John every day. All 5 chapters, every day, for 30 days. Reading it as the letter it is. Start to finish it's about love. 1 John 4:10-11 (NCV) says,

This is what real love is: it is not our love for God; it is God's love for us. He sent His Son to die in our place to take away our sins. Dear friends, if God loved us that much we also should love each other.

Why do we find it so hard to love others? Forgive us, Lord. Though we are many, we are one body in Christ. With all my being, I believe Jesus is coming soon. The signs are all around us. The real "enemy" is the dark one who is rising to power behind the scenes. As believers we must stand together as one. "They will know we are Christians by our love." We've sung the songs, now let's live it out by loving a lost and dying world in the name of Jesus.

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Thank you for your continued prayers and financial support of this ministry!

CBM is God's commission to missionaries Elfi Register and Joan Wilson to support, encourage, and release FAITH in the needy and less fortunate. CBM operates out of First Baptist Church of Fabens. Donations made through FBC Fabens are tax deductible, so please make your check payable to: Fabens First Baptist Church. Include a note to specify your gift for missionary support of Elfi and/or Joan; or for CBM's General Fund

Elfi & Joan are Mission Service Corps missionaries out of FBC Fabens. MSC is part of the North American Mission Board. These missionaries raise their own finances.



*What you have done
unto the least of these,
you have done
unto Me*

— Jesus

