

Put Joy Back in Bible Study!

# PictureThis! Prayerline

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JANUARY - FEBRUARY 2012

A few words might describe my normal preparation to give a message: a multitude of notes. As a matter of fact, my prayer suggestions to you a few weeks ago, I was asking God to increase my prep time (which means more notes). I went to Honduras loaded to the hilt with notes. God had another plan. After settling into the beautiful accommodations at Immanuel Orphanage (see other side), I began unpacking my clothes. Juanene always positions love notes in various places in my luggage (you may laugh but it gets me through weeks of being alone). One note particularly caught my attention, "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding." I know the verse well, but this time God spoke very clearly, "Dan, 'lean not on



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your own understanding' means your notes." That was too much for me. I actually argued with God, "I can't do that. I must have notes to speak." It was really no argument- God never answered. He of course saw me the next day head off for my first class with a briefcase full of notes. It took me less than 5 seconds to assess the class and the environment and conclude- all my notes were virtually useless. And that was only the beginning of an incredible week. The two classes which I was told I would have, turned into two classes a day to young people and several classes in the afternoon or evening to adults. My pattern for preparation totally changed: In the evening, God would show me the drawing for the next day. Then as early as 4:30am, He would give me a new drawing or changes to the one I (we) had prepared. For the first 3 days, it was a scary way for me to teach. Then, looking

forward to new drawings, became the highlight of my day. Trusting in the Lord with all your heart is not normal for most (even born-again) human beings. We say the words, but we rely on our notes. You say, "but I'm getting ready for a test" or I'm getting ready for whatever. Every day is preparing for a test, no matter what your vocation. My advice: do all the preparation you want. Study, research, expand, get ready. But don't put your trust in your notes. Every night, every morning, inquire with all your heart- "Lord, I MUST have Your heart. I will not let up or back off, until I have Your heart." I believe God is waiting for that kind of gut-level dependance. Moses foresaw the day when Israel would forsake God and be scattered. In that desperation, Moses said, "But from there you will seek the Lord your God, and you will find Him if you seek Him with **all your heart and with all your soul**" (Deut. 4:29. Emphasis mine).

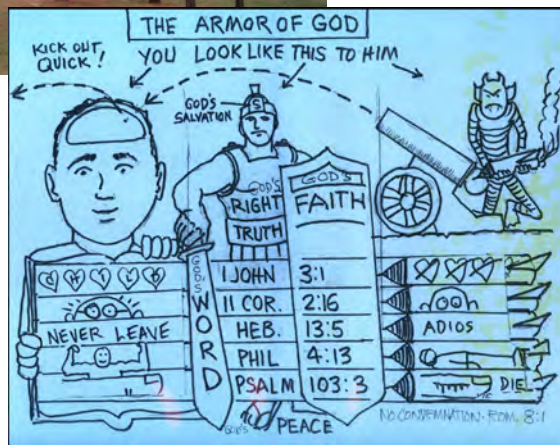
# HONDURAS REPORT THANKS BE TO GOD WHO ALWAYS LEADS US IN TRIUMPH!

I got a (very fast) glimpse of Honduran faces as we drove hundreds of miles into the forest from the airport- dirt-poor people living in shacks stacked on top of one another. As we drove through the gate with an armed guard at Emmanuel Orphanage, "a table in the midst of my enemies" came to mind. The cartel and a corrupt government rule in Honduras, but over the 20 years of very hard labor, millions of dollars donated and the pure grace of God, David Martinez and his wife have transformed 35 of their 1200 acres into a beautiful base resembling a resort. There are probably 50 buildings, including the administration offices, "haciendas" (houses built around a courtyard) for children and their supervisors, a bakery (capable of producing 700 tortillas/hour), workshop, maintenance buildings, a complete farm with hogs, chickens, goats and cows. It is all beautifully landscaped with buildings made of red brick and tile roofs. In all the time I was there, I never saw a particle of trash. Young people, from babies to 20 something, are supervised 24/7. They are fed, clothed, educated and taught the ways of God. Every morning at 5:00, their voices echo across the facilities as they rehearse memory Scriptures to each other. Unbelievable.



often we never see him. But his plan never varies: destroy us with poison "thought bombs" described as "fiery darts". Then we looked at examples of the thought bombs: God doesn't love us, we are stupid, even crazy, God abandons us, so give up, lay down, and (when we get hurt) since God doesn't heal, you are going to die. Satan cannot read minds, but he does know if you keep the thought bomb so kick it out fast! On the left side we read the Bible truth. Keep renewing your mind with the truth. And remember what you look like to the enemy- as long as you keep the armor on.

Perhaps the most powerful experience at Immanuel was watching my three assistants assigned by the staff, re-teach my lessons. I have never seen such fervor, such animation as these young men with "evangelists' hearts"



walked back and forth in front of the 8' blackboard, driving each point home in the native language of the children. The drawings, which children insisted I take, show clearly- they got the picture! On the way home in the airplane, I believe God gave me a fitting, final picture. The Scripture which He gave me at the beginning prep for Honduras came to mind- "Thanks be to God Who always leads us in triumph in Christ, and through us diffuses the fragrance

My personal experience was one of the richest in my life (see other side). I had a sense that this was no ordinary assignment; I was giving teachings orchestrated (as best I could receive and give) by God Himself for His kids. There is not enough space to show all the drawings, but here is an example:

**The Armor of God.** (From Ephesians 6). A Roman soldier in full "uniform" provides a powerful way to communicate God's provision. The armor is all **GOD's**- including faith. Our job: put it on-every day. "Principalities and powers" are difficult for young people, so we drew a new picture of our enemy. Although Satan is often described like this drawing, this is not the way he looks- he is a spirit and most

of His knowledge in every place" (II Cor. 2:14). Paul was possibly picturing a victory parade through Rome. The procession was lead by the conquering Roman general, followed by his faithful men and last- the unfortunate enemy, chains around their necks, being lead to their demise. My picture? I saw Jesus, our King of Kings on the beautiful, powerful white horse leading our victory procession. We were following our King, and some us were holding a chain, a chain leading to the back of the parade around the neck of the one who has brought death and destruction for millenniums. "(Jesus) *having disarmed principalities and powers, made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them in it*" (Col. 2:15). **We win!**

## BY GOD'S GRACE...OUR BEST YEAR EVER.....2012! Here are highlights- more in the next newsletter

**Representatives:** We are starting the year with 8 dedicated (to God and His word) ladies and their families.

**Conventions:** 27 to 30 conventions- the most we have ever had.

**New Product:** in production- all three Learning the Word for Life books plus the Question and Answer packet on a CD. Plus full color renderings of every TPSB master drawings- on one CD.

**Outreach: India Update:** Abjihit Nayak, a beloved brother from India, discovered The Picture Smart Bible at the CHEA convention and immediately said, "This is for God's children in India". In one-on-one contacts with Christian leaders in 7 key cities, Abjihit

shared our vision for TPSB in India. The reception was excellent. They were given registration packets announcing a seminar in their facility in October 2012. Abjihit has also set up PT reps who will coordinate the seminars, and subsequent follow-up. To make presentations we must have curriculum, so Abjihit contacted printers in India to obtain estimated costs for an initial run.

We believe that you share our vision: **God wants The Picture Smart Bible around the globe**- and He is continuing to open doors as He promised (Rev. 3:8). Costs for this outreach, are approximately \$10,000- needed by the end of March.