



Bible Art Ministries

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Newsletter April/May 2011

Report from Colombia

By German Rozo

I visited a private school twice to talk with the principal (who is also the owner) for permission to speak in her school. She agreed, and after our first presentation asked Victor and me into her office. She shared with us some long-standing difficulties in her marriage. She cried. She said "When I saw you, it was like seeing two angels, and I felt at peace to share with you my problems." As she spoke I prayed for guidance – I'm a missionary, not a marriage counsellor. We prayed with her. She needed to talk with someone.

She said every day she and her husband fight. I shared with her Romans 12:18 "If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live in peace with everyone." And because she said she had no peace in her heart and was mentally exhausted, I shared Philippians 4:7 "and the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus." She wrote these verses in her notebook, her face looked more peaceful and with less hate against her husband. I said "I'm going to pray for you in my daily prayer."



a presentation on the playground of the new school

German teaches how to draw stick men

This is a duty that the Lord gives, to pray for others.

In another new school, the guard at the entrance asked: "What do you do and who sent you?" I answered: "I am missionary sponsored by Canadian and American families." He spoke to the principal, and let me in. I told the principal about the presentations and showed her the book *Drawing Souls to Christ* and explained that the man on the cover was my boss and had started the ministry. She saw the photos of mother Gwen when she was young and said she was very beautiful. Then she gave me permission to make presentations.



Booking presentations is not easy; you have to walk a lot and wait a lot. Recently I stood on the sidewalk outside a new school for 4½ hours waiting for the principal. He gave me permission for four presentations. In one of these presen-

tations, I was saying that Jesus died for our sins and that He will forgive us. One ten-year-old girl, whose father is in prison for his offence, said "I'll never forgive my father because he has been very bad with me." I told her about the Lord's Prayer in Matthew 6 verses 9-13, which reads in part "forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors," and verses 14-15 which read "for if you forgive men when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you." The girl made a face like she understood this big truth.

During the presentations, I ask the students to listen to God's word. When a student is disrupting the presentation, I speak with him or her at the end of class.

JAIL

One 60 year old inmate asked Julio if his adult children could also take the course "One Way to Heaven" from the Mailbox Club that he is doing in prison. Sadly, one inmate who was part of our group, when released went back to crime, and was murdered. Please pray for these men who receive the word of God that they will not return to their old ways.

Report from Florida

By Rev. Stan Crookall

Artists in Christian Testimony is a USA based international organization that supports individuals and small organizations who use their artistic gifts as their primary means of communicating the Gospel. Music, theatre, dance, crafts, film, writing, painting are all represented. It provides organizational support, administration, training and networking. Their president, Rev. Byron Spradlin, said "There is a need for a new breed of ministers and missionaries – Christians gifted with the ability to creatively express the good news of Jesus Christ – the Arts-Ministry Specialist."

That's something we've been doing for 35 years. Doug Pyle, a faithful supporter here in Florida, and I were invited to their annual meeting in Orlando last week, and participated in a "think tank" about how to more effectively minister. We shared with them Bible Art Ministry's model of using fine art paintings and locally hired missionaries. We learned from them and were inspired. And we now have a larger network of supportive like-minded artists in ministry.

German described how a principal asked about who supported his mission. I often heard that question as well. When they find that we are a small non-denominational ministry with most of our support coming from individuals, they feel freer to give permission for a presentation. Thank you for being a vital part of our ministry's prayerful support team. May the Lord bless you real good.

Report from Canada.

We are making progress toward reaching the goal of 300 supporters by the end of the year. Please recommend us to your friends and fellow travelers with Christ. People can visit us on the web (see the address above) or write or phone in and be added to the postal mailing. The newsletter comes out once a month and reports on the activities of the previous month. That is, this April issue comes out at the end of April/first of May and reports on April's activities. We have decided to rename the newsletter for the month in which you receive it. So the next issue you receive will be the "June" newsletter at the start of June, and it will report on May's activities.

Colombia has experienced major flooding the past few months – 4,000 square miles of land underwater, 300 dead, 2 million forced from their homes, an estimated \$5 billion in damages. The flooding is in the north of the country. Bogota, where our missionaries are, is not affected. It doesn't make the news, in comparison to Japan's disaster, but still there is a need for prayerful support.



waiting at the bus stop – for the next boat