



## Biblical Institute of Central America

A Two-Year Bible School - to prepare evangelists and church leaders

<http://www.bica.info/>

August 2010

Dear Friends and Co-workers,

Thank you for your love and fellowship. We work hard in Central America, and you work hard here to support the work. Together with God we are reaching thousands by His grace and for His glory. Our task is great, but our God is greater.

For most, budget time is coming soon. I ask that you prayerfully consider a 20% increase for 2011. For a few years, costs had eased up. Lately, they have jumped up. Especially, food costs have really increased. If everyone can increase some, it will be a great blessing for us. Thank you! Read the following to see what your sacrifice is doing.

First we look to Guatemala. A 3 1/2 day campaign in LaUnion resulted in 14 baptisms and 2 restorations. Then, in four churches in El Salvador, campaigns resulted in 31 baptisms, plus 14 restorations. Weekend works produced 26 baptisms and 62 restorations. Total: 72 baptisms, 78 restorations, 710 contacts. Also on weekends, 14 are being taught to teach others. Total—149 saved in one month.

I have three months of reports from Honduras. MAY: Campaign in Trinidad Santa Barbara—11 baptisms, 9 restorations. Campaign in Choluteca—37 baptisms, 14 restorations. Weekends—57 baptisms, 54 restorations. Total for May: 105 baptisms, 77 restorations.

JUNE, Honduras—weekends—37 baptisms, 63 restorations. Campaign in Chimaltemango, Guatemala—17 baptisms, 37 restorations. One student in Puerto Barrio—9 baptisms. Special seminar—7 baptisms, 43 restorations. Total for June: 70 baptisms, 143 restorations.

JULY, Honduras—weekends—13 baptisms, 33 restorations. Campaign—Travesia, Cortez—16 baptisms, 13 restorations. Omoa campaign—19 baptisms. Total for July: 48 baptisms, 46 restorations. THREE MONTH TOTAL: 223 baptisms, 266 restorations. Total saved: 489 in 3 months in Honduras BICA.

Reports from Nicaragua were not received in a timely manner to include.

We need your prayers in several areas. In Honduras and Nicaragua, the directors are close to 40 years old. They both struggle with bad cases of diabetes. Roberto Alvarez in Guatemala is facing threats to lives by those wishing to extort money from him. My wife, Claudia, has several health issues. There is much malaria in Nicaragua.

The vision of Jesus to take the Gospel to all is a great challenge. It is a challenge that we should embrace. He will provide for all our needs. We must not be AFRAID—II Timothy 1:7. Afraid of what? We dare not be ASHAMED! Ashamed of what? Romans 1:16. Never can we be INTIMIDATED! Intimidated by what? We are called to discipleship to be like our leader, named Jesus. Let us restore the GUT of our New Testament brothers. (See II Cor. 11:23-28.) We cannot be soft. We function on strength and courage (Joshua 1). We are warriors—peaceful warriors.

I need some warrior help. You can be in a servant position with BICA. You can help in fundraising and reporting. You tell me what you are willing to do. My new phone number: 281-252-4444.

May grace, peace, and joy be yours.

In Christ,

*George W. Hall*

***From the Caribbean . .***

***... to the Pacific shores of Central America***



# BIBLICAL INSTITUTE OF CENTRAL AMERICA

## FACT SHEET

*From the Caribbean . .*

**Two year Bible school to train preachers/leaders - Additional vocational training when needed.**

**Low Cost** - Food, housing, clothing, etc. according to local standards. Approximately \$260/month for single students and \$380/month for married students.

**History** - The first class started in February 1998 and graduated in December 1999 in El Progreso, Yoro, Honduras, C.A. A sister school in Guatemala City, Guatemala, opened in January 2004. A second sister school was added in Jinotepe, Nicaragua, in January 2008.

**Activities** - Students attend class 7:30 AM - 3:00 PM, Monday - Friday. On the weekends they do practical work. Saturdays are filled with door-knocking and training others to do Bible studies in area churches (II Tim. 2:2). Sundays provide opportunity for preaching and song leading. Every year each school conducts ten one-week campaigns. Every student also participates in starting house churches. Upon graduation, each student will have had 600-700 home Bible studies. Yearly, the campaigns, along with the weekend work, produce 1700-2500 baptisms. Each student is recommended by his home congregation.

### **Staff -**

- George W. Hall - Executive Director, limited teaching, fund raiser, coordinator of special group missions (i.e, teen service groups, medical missions, campaign workers, etc.)
- David Romero - Associate Director, teaching, fund-raising, event coordinator, etc.
- William Racancoj - Director, Honduras, day-by-day operations, teaching. He has an assistant.
- Roberto Alvarez - Director, Guatemala, day-by-day operations, teaching. He has an assistant.
- Dr. Erick Garcia – Director, Nicaragua, day-by-day operations, teaching. He has an assistant.
- Classroom teachers - A unique approach has been taken in this area. The schools have no resident full-time teachers. In the first two years, 33 different teachers taught. They eat/sleep at the school facilities. One subject is taught weekly; therefore, only one teacher is needed at a time. For example, a preacher will teach Mark for one week; then he returns home and another teacher will come to teach another class. Only their expenses are paid.

**Facilities** - The Institutes are housed in modest homes. There is one classroom, bedrooms (one for guest instructors and others for single students), and a kitchen/dining room. Married students live in rented homes.

**Vocational Training after Graduation** - Dependency upon the U.S. dollar has caused multiple problems. Dependency kills dignity, faith, vision, sacrifice, etc. When preacher support and buildings are funded from the U.S.A., a “welfare state” is produced. Typically, the preacher is paid three times the average salary. He becomes the “pastor” who is not accountable to the local church. The church is weak - never mature. Our concept is to “teach them to fish, not to provide fish”. Upon graduation, vocational training is provided to those who need a trade. Graduates are not placed on U.S. support.

### **Contact Information:**

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### **BICA:**

**Honduras:** APDO 14; El Progreso, Yoro; Honduras; C.A. (Overseen by Belton Church of Christ)

**Guatemala:** APDO 73; Correo Central, Guatemala City, Guatemala; C.A. (Overseen by Fairmont Park C/C)

**Nicaragua:** PO Box 0155, Jinotepe, Carazo, Nicaragua, C.A. (Overseen by Northside C/C; McDermott Rd. C/C)