



## Biblical Institute of Central America

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

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

October 2010

Beloved of God,

Greetings! Thank God for His constant care. He wonderfully provides our every need. We seek and desire His wisdom and grace. Praise Him with loud voices!

I hope that someone gives me a million dollars. I don't expect it to happen. In the Bible, the word "hope" means desire PLUS expectation. That's different than the way we use the word "hope". I hope (desire and expect) to go to heaven. We are saved by hope—Romans 8:24. Together, with God, I hope (desire and expect) to see the Gospel preached in all of Central America. God desires and expects us to work in faith with Him to see it happen. We must have hope first before the lost can have hope. As you make your budget for next year, help us to bring hope to the lost sheep of Central America. Thank you! Our expenses have increased much in the last two years—especially food. Please keep our vision firmly in your mind. We produce self-supported, life-time missionaries in their own culture. Our graduates are effective, excellent evangelists.

Roberto Alvarez in Guatemala is feeling better, thanks to God. He and his family have suffered many and various trials in the last three months. Pray for them.

In order for you to get a little closer to the works and feel a great kinship to our brethren (students and directors), I will share some of my edited correspondence.

From William Racancoj, director in Honduras:

1– At this moment we are here in Catacamas. we are in campaign in two places:

A- In Sosa Catacamas. The preacher is Vicente Euseda.

B- In Rio tinto, Catacamas: the preacher is Francisco Romero.

For this time, there are 19 baptized

2– The next Saturday, I will be meeting with all preachers of this area from Olancho.

These preachers are graduates of BICA. The purpose of this meeting is to know about their jobs in the churches and about the churches, too. Also, I will talk with five students for the next year (their first year)

3- We finish here the Sunday in the morning and then we will go back to Progreso.

4- The next week, the class will be Jeremiah.

The *Christian Chronicle* has a report about the flooding in Nicaragua. To see the article, with photos and a video, go to this link:

<http://www.christianchronicle.org/blog/2010/10/ministries-request-aid-for-nicaragua-flood-victims/>

See page two for a report from Nicaragua.

In Christ,

*George W. Hall*

P.S. As always, please share this with others.

***From the Caribbean . .***

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



## From Nicaragua:

In our campaign in September, we were in Ciudad Dario, 150 kms north of Jinotepe, Thanks to God, we could come back; we were without communication for several hours because of rain. A small bridge was destroyed; we were waiting to cross. Finally, brother Arnaldo Rojas, our Assistant Director, and Christopher, a student from first year, crossed and tied a rope. Then we crossed the first river; two more rivers were waiting for us. We were without food or shelter, raining for more than 12 hrs. A big truck helped us to get to the road, almost turned over. A public bus didn't have the same luck and turned over with 30 people, 3 of them died. God was with us! We crossed the river in a human chain. Some students and ladies hit their bodies against the truck but nothing serious. Finally, our results were 11 baptisms, 7 restorations, 19 souls. We got sick, but we were on treatment, nothing serious, probably was the water in the river and the rain. We had headache, fever, and weakness. Nobody expected this rain. Meanwhile, we were at the area when it started raining, and in a few places it was flooding. In this month, we received the following classes: Romans, Galatians, I,II Peter. Our next campaign, El Almendro, San Marcos. Our classes: II,II Tim., Ti, Hebrews, Jeremiah.

Activities: Preaching in campaign: 1 Giving seminars: 3 (Teacher seminar, Masaya. Youth Seminar, Tegucigalpa, Leadership seminar, Managua) Meeting Tax Department: 5 Meeting Social Security: 10. Work Meetings: 12.South Committee: 1

Bible Studies:	450		
Totals:	Baptisms	Restored	
Campaign	11	7	
House churches	18	0	
Assignments	19	49	
<b>Total</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>104 Souls</b>

Now, about the flooding situation:

First of all, thank you so much to everyone who has been praying for the people of Nicaragua and those who have donated to support our work. Each of you is making a huge difference.

Thanks to your help, we returned yesterday to the consolidation facility with food, medicine, school supplies, clothes, stuffed animals, bedding, four piñatas, (I took 4 BICA students, and they were giving a good time to the kids who suffered a big trauma losing their homes, and some of their relatives) and most importantly, hope. Everything was greatly needed and greatly appreciated by all. Your support brought joy back into the lives of many who were without.

### ***But we are not done yet!***

After dropping off the first part of supplies in one of the places yesterday, we talked to the Mayor of Tipitapa to discuss the other needs of the region. He informed us there are three communities with 150 families that have watched helplessly as their land has turned into islands due to the flood waters. They are currently trapped between two growing bodies of water and are suffering landslides as the ground becomes more saturated. They have also been without food since Friday. Some of our students, and their relatives lost their stuff and do not have food. We were giving them some yesterday for some 3-5 days.

The situation is critical. Today the cost of one sack of beans is 2,400 cordobas (\$111 dollars) yesterday was 1400 cordobas (\$68 dollars) . More than 80% of harvest is lost.

There are 700+ people going on 6 days without food or the ability to leave for a safer place or to find help. And when we talked to the mayor, there was no one going... not the government, not the Army, no groups, no one...except us.

It hurts my heart to think there are children who have not eaten for 6 days, but we can change that.

***You are changing that.***



Today (October 6) we will be purchasing food and building care packages for all 150 families, total cost \$4200 dollars. We have members of the church included among the victims of flooding. Christopher, one of our students of first year, does not know anything about his relatives. We came back at 12:30 AM today. We were looking for them in shelter homes, and we didn't find them yet. The area where they used to live disappeared (is under the water). With the help of the Nicaraguan Army and the Mayor's office, we will deliver the packages on Thursday.

We are eternally grateful for your prayers, support and encouragement.

Erick Garcia M  
BICA- Director

Note from George Hall's Special Report sent September 30:

**I know that your heart of compassion will be touched; plus, your spirit of benevolence will be aroused to act. Many, many things are needed. There is a food shortage. Prices will elevate. Brethren have lost homes and jobs. They are hungry. Please help. Send donations to: Northside Church of Christ, P.O. Box 3868, Temple, TX 76505.**



Eveling on the chair, Arnaldo carrying pasta and Yader Sanchez (2nd year student) with the black bag (clothes)

These photos are not the best quality, but they will give you an idea of the seriousness of the situation in Nicaragua. To read more about the flooding in Nicaragua, be sure to read the article in the *Christian Chronicle*.

<http://www.christianchronicle.org/blog/2010/10/ministries-request-aid-for-nicaragua-flood-victims/>