

# R B W Missions

Isaiah 58

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Repair

Rebuild

Restore



What a fantastic time we had together with between 75 and 85 pastors and/or spouses the 6<sup>th</sup> - 9<sup>th</sup> of March. Our theme from II Corinthians 1:3-5 - "Comforted, That We Might Comfort" was such a success. Those who had received God's comfort and help shared their stories and prayed with, and for, those who were in the same spot they had been. The pastor's comments speak for themselves:

*"I liked the personal testimonies that went along with the theme of Comforted that we might comfort."* - Pastor E

*"God was working with us as a Body in Christ. It was marvelous what God was doing."* - Pastor D

*"We could feel the presence of God."* - V Pastor's wife

*"It was a great blessing and much to learn and they taught the (men) pastors not to be machistos and that they needed to give love to their wives."* - J Pastor's wife.

*"The testimonies were very good and they told the stories of the marvelousness of how God uses those times to be glorified in His people."* - M and H, Pastoral couple

The time of the 4<sup>th</sup> Pastor's Retreat in Nicaragua was such a blessing. We were a group of almost 100 people from various backgrounds, denominations, and races, and we were comforted, as we heard stories of God's comfort in each other's lives and situations. Many commented on the unity that was felt as we prayed for one another, sharing our joys and sorrows, failures and triumphs, needs and provisions. Luis and Saida shared their testimony how God used the teaching at previous retreats to save their marriage, putting love into a relationship that was filled with resentment and harshness for 25+ years. As they shared transparently, the audience laughed and cried - many with a yearning for the same healing. Nearly half of the couples went forward for prayer afterwards and it was clear that God was at work in resolving conflicts the next day when the men were given roses to give to their wives.

Once again, we included the global need for the Gospel. Hands were laid on prayer cards for unreached people groups around the world. Little by little, they are seeing and believing that God may use Nicaraguans to bring the comfort they've received in Christ to the lost in the far reaches of the world.



Our thanks to all who prayed, gave, went and sent to make this retreat possible. God honored your investment and we saw, and will continue to see, God's Name being exalted and eternal treasures being stored up in heaven for you.

## PROTESTS AND PRAYER:

Some of you may be aware of protests in Nicaragua that turned deadly recently. The issues are complex and have been there for years, but have erupted now due to a presidential resolution that was not approved by their congress, affecting the social security benefits (medical and old-age pensions) of students, laborers, and elderly. The Church has responded with prayer and fasting, entreating God to show His Glory and bring a peaceful resolution. The majority of the issue is centered in Managua, Leon, and Esteli. The church and school in Nandaime have not been affected.

Our tickets for the May team are purchased. Pray with us for God's glory and peace to come to the nation. Pray that we will know His direction for the team scheduled and for courage and obedience. Pray for our brothers and sisters to be lights in the darkness, to be bold, to be guarded, to be discerning. Pray that God's Kingdom, alive in us, will affect the kingdoms of the earth.

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## 12 MANZANAS FOR THE KINGDOM (MEASUREMENT OF LAND, NOT AN APPLE)



It is looking more and more like we have our eyes set on the "promised" land in Nicaragua. For those farmers among the readers, buying 20 acres of land might not be such a big deal, but for us, this is like buying our first house. We've done the soil analysis and "Surprise, Surprise, Surprise!" every

nutrient is on the low side, but not terrible. The Nicaraguan church is praying with us and we hope to have a firm decision - meaning a mutually heard answer from the Lord - by the end of May.

This is a developing venture. We have a vision of the end picture and some ideas of the steps along the way, but, in true Biblical pattern, God seems to be giving us only pieces of the puzzle, one at a time. (He probably knows that's all we can handle.) But, we cannot deny that He is continually leading us forward.

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## CONNECTING FOR CONSTRUCTION:

May 22, Carol will fly with 5 wonderful brothers from SD and MN to work with one of our adopted pastors to finish his home construction. Pastor Juan Carlos was featured in our last prayer letter (Please refer to our February 2018 Newsletter on our website) has been sponsored by a farmer in SD who goes to the same church that Jane attends. Jane came with us to the Pastor's Retreat in March and met Pastor Juan Carlos when we stopped to visit and pray for him following his recent surgery. Jane went home and told her church what she saw and how she felt they needed to help him finish his house. Men responded quickly and a team was born. Five guys signed up. We bought plane tickets. And we're ready to go. This is so encouraging. We have a bunch of opportunities like this with pastors & churches who could benefit with a work team like this. If you'd like some ideas, let us know and we'll connect you to a church where you can partner together for the Kingdom's advancement and the glory of its King.



*With love for Jesus and you, Enrique and Carol Acosta, Managers of RBW Missions*



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