

# GAMBOA UNION CHURCH

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**AUGUST 2012** I did get to see former general and dictator Manuel Noriega...it happened this way. You might recall that in a newsletter about six months ago I wrote that I had a dream 25 years ago that I was sharing the Lord with this man. It was an actual dream that I had one night, not just an idea or desire. At that time, he was in power, things were very bad in Panama and he was unapproachable. I had forgotten about the dream until this past December when he was transferred to this prison near us that I go to every week.

A few months ago I mentioned that the director had given him my book and I waited for an invitation to visit him. He is in a private area with guards so I couldn't just go there. Well, the invitation didn't come.

About two weeks ago the South African team which had stayed in our church in May returned to get visas for India as they passed through Panama. In the midst of divinely orchestrated events, Noriega accepted the offer to have the South African team come sing to him while we were at the prison on my regular weekly visit.

He graciously received us in an outdoor location and the team sang, gave testimonies and a brief message which he, the director and the guards literally applauded. There are many more details of this 45 minute meeting but just to say that there was a real sense of the presence of the Holy Spirit as the team sang wonderful songs of praise. It really changed the whole spiritual atmosphere.

I share this with you because you are interested praying friends and ask that you not forward or post this on facebook, etc. Accounts like this can get distorted and end up harming this prison ministry.

The team had many other wonderful divine encounters while here. For example, on that day at the prison, we also had our weekly meeting. As we were leaving, one of the team said the Lord showed her that there was a man there with pain in his left side under his ribs. I asked if anyone had this pain. A man immediately responded, came forward for prayer and was healed...just like that!

We sang in the bedroom of a former canal worker who is basically shut in and prayed with him. The presence of the Lord filled that house! They also made contact with a 19 year old college student who had visited the church the week before. He was in his last week of study here this summer and the team brought him along to that home. He had never experience anything like this and to encounter so many young adults excited about serving God. Two of the guys went with him to his quarters later and shared more of the love of Christ and prayed with him. He said this was an amazing last week here.

The day before the team left they had to pick up their visas at the Indian embassy. The lady waiting on them was limping with pain in her leg. Although she had a bad attitude, they offered to pray for her. Surprised at this, she still agreed. And the Lord healed that leg right in front of them! As they got a taxi when they left, the driver turned out to be a Christian and invited them to speak at his church.

It was sad to say good bye at the airport...but we ended up singing with the guitar in the cafeteria "The Heart of Worship" that it's all about You Jesus! We prayed, gave thanks, and sent them off to Brazil for a few weeks and then on to India and eventually South Africa completing 11 months of ministry. We are a blessed, blessed people to experience what the Lord is doing globally.

Thanks for supporting this mission with gifts and prayers. It allows us to be part of what God is doing and you are a part of it too. Tax deductible gifts can be sent to: Syd Corbett; 231 SE 45<sup>th</sup> Terrace; Ocala, FL 34471-3224