

GAMBOA UNION CHURCH

GAMBOA , PANAMA

Pty 2299 box 025207 Miami, FL 33102

Pastor Bill Wilbur 011-507-66005200 www.gamboaunion.com

JANUARY 2011 Pastor, we're here to help! Those are words any pastor would love to hear. Well, meet Ray and Pat, super citizens from outside Kansas City, Mo. This is what happened...Two years ago they took a tour through the Panama Canal. It was one of those days when I was able to connect with the tour buses as they passed thru Gamboa to board the tour boats for a half-transit of the canal to sell my book (*Finding Freedom in Panama*). They bought a book just as the bus was unloading at the dock. When they got back to the states, they lost it.

One year later they found it in the side pocket of their luggage. They read it, were blessed, and contacted me to tell me their story. A few months ago, they contacted me again and asked for the name of a bed and breakfast place to stay for three months. They ended up back here in Gamboa with plenty of time to vacation and also to invest time in helping with the ministry here. Ray has had lots of experience in contracting and building so has offered these valuable talents at the church. What a blessing in our lives to have them here. We stand amazed at the ways God builds his kingdom. All of this helps confirm to us that we are in the right place doing the right thing.

Now, here is what happened at the prison this week. I went for my normal Thursday morning meeting but when I entered the room, there were twice as many men...there were 28 instead of the usual 14. "What happened?" I asked, "Where did all these guys come from?"

One of the prisons about an hour away had transferred over one hundred men to this prison at the beginning of January. Out of that number, there was a large group that had come to know Christ and they immediately sought out the Christians in their new location.

When our team of three walked in, they had no idea who we were. The leader took time to introduce us and tell them that I had been coming to that prison for over 33 years. That got their attention. Barriers came down, they listened intently and enjoyed the cookies and toilet paper we brought.

Thank you so much for praying for me on these days and for the men. I have seen many of their lives changed as God gives me a message each week. Just this past week one man stopped me in the super market and asked if I remembered him... I didn't. He told me when he had been in the Gamboa prison he had come to Christ and is now involved in a very good church in Panama City.

Other news....

- Plans for the new parsonage are in progress at this time.
- Do you want to hear a great account of God using angels in a pastor's life? Go to www.churchofhispresence.org. Click on "REVIVAL" then on "ARCHIVES" Go to the service for Nov. 11, 2010 The singing will last an hour and then Pastor John Kilpatrick will speak.
- Dynamis Campbell from our church attended the ONE THING conference in Kansas City, Mo over the holidays with 30,000 turned on young people....Revival is coming...get ready!
- Tax-deductible gifts can be sent to Mrs. Syd Corbett; 231 S.E. 45th Terrace; Ocala, FL 34471

Thank you for all your support and prayers, pastor Bill Wilbur