

GAMBOA UNION CHURCH, GAMBOA, PANAMA

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MARCH 2010 I saw an Indian lady walking toward me with a horrible limp. It was early in the morning and I was walking the dog near the river. I had never seen her before and she had a small child with her.

I spoke to her and found out she was from the Embera tribe and lived far away in the Darien jungle toward Colombia. She was just visiting some family members in the nearby village. As I got closer to her I found out that she was also blind in one eye. She had no money to buy a shoe with a lift and thus her back was always in pain when she tried to walk with such a bad limp.

She had been in an accident with a tree when she was one year old (I didn't get the details). The care for her was very poor and thus she was in her present condition. I continued on my walk but suddenly felt I should go back and pray for her.

Then the battle inside my head began. "Don't do that, she can't really understand you." "You don't even know her." "What are you expecting....a miracle or something?" "But what if I don't pray... I will never know what would have happened."

So I turned back. She did know who I was and "yes" she would be glad for me to pray with her. I had been reading and listening a lot recently to the awakening meetings at the International House of Prayer in Kansas City, Mo. I had seen and heard the testimonies of all kinds of healing so I wanted to at least pray for this lady and leave the results in God's hands.

I would like to report that there was some great evidence of a change in her condition, but there wasn't. I thought a lot about her for the next couple of days and hoped that if she came to church we could have a ministry team pray with her.

Sunday morning came and there she was... a little late, but she came limping down the aisle with her son. At the close of the service she made her way to the front for us to pray for her son who had a fever. But I was more focused on praying for her.

I asked two young people and another adult to pray with us. The young people were really believing for a miracle. She was sitting in the front pew when we began to pray and then she began to cry out because of a heat going down her leg. As we continued to pray she just slumped over in the pew and then eventually on the floor. (Most people had left the church and were not aware of what was happening). As we continued to pray for the shorter leg and for her eye she was definitely undergoing some deep work by the Holy Spirit.

When we finished, there didn't seem to be any change in her leg or her eye. But she did want to receive Christ as her Savior and commit her life to him! After instruction and leading her in prayer she had the assurance of eternal life. We all rejoiced together. It was quite a day....but....

What I didn't know was that a young lady sitting with us all that time also prayed to receive the Lord. She sat there crying as she gave her life to Christ. The Indian lady returned to the Darien and fortunately has a church and some missionaries nearby to help her. We continue to pray.....

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