

GAMBOA UNION CHURCH

GAMBOA, PANAMA

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MARCH 2013 Pastor, how can we help to serve here in Gamboa? That is the question I was asked by four young Christian guys from South Africa recently.

One guy, 23, was a semi-pro rugby player on his way to a life of fame and money in the pros with a South African team. Rugby is BIG, but three years ago he determined to serve the Lord first in any way God would lead him. Now he was in Panama.

The other three, ages 18-25 had all led a life of drugs, alcohol and the party scene until God got a hold of their lives. One had been on drugs for 8 years and was instantly delivered of these addictions with no withdrawals, flashbacks or after effects. They had surrendered all and were now on an 11 month world mission trip.

For seven days, the guys stayed at the church, worked, prayed, worshipped along with Hillsong and Jesus Culture music and assisted me in ministry. We spent far more time in prayer than I normally would making us sensitive to "Divine Encounters."

For example, Saturday afternoon they met some students playing soccer from Princeton University here on a 3 month program staying in the building next to the church. So they invited them over to the church for Sat. night coffee. Eight of them came over to talk and four came back for the Sunday morning service.

Sunday morning, at the close of the service, we had a baptism service nearby. Seven were baptized from four countries. The S. African team had given testimonies and had sung at the service and now assisted by praying for each person after being baptized.

We went to visit a family from the church that had recently gotten bad news from their doctor. The guys shared their testimonies and then we prayed and sang. The presence of the Lord was so real and the family very encouraged.

After sharing with one of our Christian families in a public location, we grouped together to pray. A Panamanian special forces instructor was jogging by and was drawn by the Holy Spirit to talk to us. He had made a decision for Christ at one time but had drifted far away. Now he wanted to pray and get right with God.

Each day seemed to be divinely orchestrated as the team spent extra time in prayer and then looked for ways to serve the Lord. I believe there is a spiritual impact far greater than we imagine when worship and intercession take place.

Thank you for your prayers and support for the mission here. Bless you all, Bill

Gifts can be sent to: Mrs. Sydney Corbett; 231 SE 45th Terrace; Ocala, FL 34471-3224