

# GAMBOA UNION CHURCH    GAMBOA, PANAMA

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**JUNE 2008 SITTING ON A PLANE** recently from Orlando to Panama, a 20 yr. old girl sat next to my wife and I. She told me she had just seen the movie PRINCE CASPIAN. When I told her that it had a Christian message to it, she was intrigued. Soon she was telling us about her family: born in Panama and abandoned by her father; her mother remarried when she was 10 and they moved to the states. Recently her step father was taking action to officially adopt her. Now at age 20 she was visiting family in Panama for the first time since she left. I shared with her that the Bible tells about adoption in the family of God. She wanted to know more. After almost two hours of good conversation, she indicated that she wanted to give her life to Christ right then and become His child. With tears in her eyes she expressed that her sins were truly forgiven and that she had the assurance of eternal life.

This was truly a "God Thing!" I had tried to change to the exit row earlier and it wasn't available. She was sitting in another row but changed with the lady next to me so that she could sit with her husband. This wasn't our plans, but God set it all up....so exciting to see Him at work. He loves us!!!

I mentioned Terrance from Philadelphia at the Renacer prison before. I found out more about the heartache this man has gone through: His father, who was a pastor, died when he was 5 yrs. old; his wife committed suicide at the age of 34 by burning the house down around her...the 4 children escaped, but with burns; his 19 yr old son committed suicide while both he and the son were in the same prison; his 29 yr old son was shot and killed and his woman friend who was taking care of his kids and his widowed mother died recently of cancer. Then after all these years, he found out that his sister (now 70) had a different father. He is struggling for his identity, reason and purpose for life. He wants to serve the Lord when he gets out...we have encouraged him not to wait, but begin now.

My two brothers, Bob and Larry, came to Panama for my birthday the first week in June. We did the tourist thing which is always fun, caught up on some childhood memories and had opportunities to share the Lord as well. When I took them to the prison, we found out a guy had been recently killed by 4 guys and they were only letting a few guys out at a time. Bob was scheduled to speak to the chapel meeting which was cancelled. So he spoke to 6 guys that we got together about the Kingdom of God. Larry got to spend 35 min talking and praying just with Terrance which was a real blessing. I feel we made good use of the time God did give us.

Other current concerns and interests:    Thank you for your support and prayers, Bill

Our son, David, is recovering slowly from the operation on his neck...need to keep praying, thanks!

New web site is nearly completed....you will be able to listen to Panama Today, now in its 13<sup>th</sup> year.

Many visitors and the Youth With A Mission teams returned from Mexico, Central America and Haiti with wonderful reports. Other teams are here now for outreach to Panama.