

# GAMBOA UNION CHURCH, GAMBOA, PANAMA

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**February 2009 The buses are back...** recently, on a Thursday morning as I was getting ready to go to the prison, I stopped at the front of the church to get the guys on our prison team.... And then I saw them and heard them....buses everywhere just down the street. They were loaded with tourists from the cruise ships waiting to board the tour boats to view the canal and the locks. I quickly went to the buses and asked to board and tell about my book. The tour leaders remembered me from last year and many had read my book. One tour guide called me over to get on his bus to tell his passengers.

I was handed the microphone and I presented the contents of the book...I always add a little joke asking if they noticed the fine rain that we periodically get. Then I tell them that it is called the "Costa Rican mist".... Because it "missed Costa Rica and we got it."

I seek to tell people enough of the Lord's work mentioned in the book, that for those who aren't interested, they still have heard a witness of what amazing things God did during the Noriega days. I pass them out among the tourists while I am speaking so they can look at it. Then they either give me the money or the book back... I have met some really nice people in the process.

Well, I thought I was finished... I ran out of books and the buses began to go thru the Dredging Division gates, so I headed back to the church to go on to the prison. But then here came another group of buses. So I grabbed some more books out of the office, told the men to wait a few more minutes and back down the street I went.

There were a total of nineteen buses that morning and I got on only about six of them but sold 18 books in the space of 25 minutes. The buses don't stay parked too long, so it all has to be done very quickly. I am reminded of Paul's challenge to "redeem the time" (Col. 4:5) and to seize the moment which might not be available again. It is a challenge, but it is also exciting to see how God sets this whole thing up and to be part of His Kingdom building.

Let me challenge you to look for those Divine "set ups" that He arranges for you. It might come in the form of an interruption, an unexpected call/e-mail or a thought/dream of someone you haven't seen in years. Just make yourself available and see what God will do

## OTHER HAPPENINGGS:

- In January I taught the YWAM leadership school of nine students from several countries.
- In February I taught the YWAM discipleship training school of fifteen students from several countries. This was special because three were from a remote Indian village, one of whom can neither read or write, but wants to learn how to share Christ with her people.
- In January I began a Wed. eve Bible study here in Gamboa. A new Christian bi-lingual man from Venezuela opened his home and provides translation as needed. We have 12 people.
- If you need a tax deductible receipt for 2008 gifts to this mission, please contact us.

Thank you for all your love, prayer support and gifts to the work here in Panama. You don't realize this side of heaven, how important all of you are. Blessings on you, Pastor Bill Wilbur