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THE GOINS FAMILY

MISSIONARIES TO HONDURAS



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Prayer Letter

November 2019

Marlon & Me

Recently Marlon testified of how he came to Christ and I was reminded of God's sovereign working and abundant grace. He was hanging out with a teenage boy who sporadically attended our church. One Sunday morning both boys were making plans to go downtown, but in order to get permission they lied to the other young man's mother and said they were going to church. Their charade included waiting at the church bus stop and even riding our church bus all the way to its destination, but then catching a public bus that was headed downtown instead of attending church. While they waited, a light rain started up. The other boy's uncle "happened" to be driving by and he offered to take his nephew and Marlon to church. Instead of dropping them off at the most likely spot on the main road near the church, the uncle "decided" to turn down the dirt drive and dropped them off right at the front door of the church where we were waiting to meet the arrivals for the church service. Marlon was made to feel welcome, even though he remembers feeling awkward for wearing shorts and sandals. With resignation, the two friends made their way to find a place to sit. **Human plans thwarted; God's plans on target.** Marlon heard the gospel message that day and God worked in his heart to return the next Sunday with his girlfriend. They both confessed their faith in Christ shortly afterward. Fast forward ten years and Marlon and Bridgy have since gotten married, have three children, and faithfully serve in the ministries of their local church. Marlon surrendered his life to full-time ministry and has been studying in our Bible institute for the past three years. He and his wife are being prepared by our ministry partner, missionary Marie Lea-Wilson, to work with the deaf in our community. Marlon is scheduled to be ordained to the gospel ministry in March 2020. My former pastor, Dr. Bud Calvert, used to say: "You can't take the gospel to the wrong address." I would add that you must give the gospel to those God places in your path, even if they came to the wrong address! God knew what Marlon needed, and he sovereignly worked to put Marlon in a position to get what he needed. Praise God for the transforming power of the gospel!



In October we were privileged to return to the U.S. for a short time to participate in two special missions conferences. First, at the Campus Church where both Matt and Dallita surrendered to follow the Lord's leading to the mission field over 20 years ago! (We also got to see one of our students -- sophomore nursing major Belkis Bonilla). Then we were blessed to lead the missions conference at our sending church, West Florida Baptist Church. It was a wonderful time to reconnect and share what God has been doing in Honduras.



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