



CEO Ministries Inc.

VOLUME 39
ISSUE 9
OCTOBER 2018

FOCUS ON CUBA

Dr. Lewis & Brian have just returned from two weeks in Cuba and want to share with you some of the stories of what God is doing with your help and prayers. First, let us take you to a little mission outside of Holguin.



Their one-room shack with a dirt floor and termite-ridden thatched roof provides a shelter from the sun and rain. The dirt floor and wooden walls with open windows is a place they call home. There is no electricity or running water as they pioneer a church in the farm country. All their possessions are in the one little room that houses the bedrooms, the kitchen, and the crude pail toilet behind the yellow curtain.



Their little church is bright and cheery and the old gospel songs are sung with joy and enthusiasm as the pastor boldly teaches the Word of God. His son is known to be a good little preacher at the age of 14. They voice nothing but gratitude in their love for the Lord and the people God has placed under their care.



As we sat down and talked with them about their ministry the young boy proudly said he quit school and was going to become a pastor. This creates problems because the authorities could take the boy away from the parents because school is mandatory. Further inquiry revealed that they could not afford to send him to school. Transportation to school every day and paying for the lunch at school along with the books and other costs would amount to 12 cuc per month and that is all this couple makes to live on. Because of your support we were able to give them 120 cuc so that the boy could go to school for the whole year and we will try to do that each year. This is clearly a case of giving to the "least of His" we are giving it to Jesus. Thank you for your help.



Medical Doctors turn Pastors... This lovely family of five live near Havana and both served as medical doctors in the hospitals. They earn 25 cucs per month. They responded to God's call for them to be pastors and are now pastoring a church of 200. They were living in a government-supplied apartment because they were serving as doctors are now required to vacate their apartment. They have saved 6000 cuc's but need another 4000 cucs (\$5300cdn) to buy an apartment because apartments are illegal to rent. They have a 1938 Chev. that needs 2000 cucs to repair and they could sell it for 10,000 cucs and then pay back what they owe. Banks do not loan money in Cuba. On top of all that, the place the church

was renting is no longer available and so the church is without a place of worship. What is urgently needed here is to get the pastor's family an apartment. Leonid Vera (father), Pilar (wife), Joel, Isaac, Emmanuel. To be straight forward we need \$8000 to process this project and it will be repaid and go into a fund that does similar projects. Earlier, we had to buy a fridge for a mission family that would not be able to repay it because they barely survive but to be without a fridge in Cuba means some of their precious food cannot be saved. God builds His church on prayer and obedience and the sacrifice of His Son. Please pray that God will move hearts to support the "least of His". **TL**



Have you ever felt like you were in a dream where the unreal seemed to be the norm? That's what this last trip had felt like in many ways. Initially we had gone down to take care of some leadership matters, but I never give up the opportunity to share the gospel with someone on the streets when I get the chance. In the past year I have been learning that the more I get out of the way, the more Holy Spirit can do what He does best: amaze. That's exactly what He did this trip.

Though I have many stories I want to share one specifically that I think highlights the motivation of a God given miracle. I did see lots of healings, I did see many people have spiritual encounters, I even saw some major financial prayers answered for some people. But the greatest miracle is not a healing, spiritual encounter, or answered prayer. The greatest miracle is when someone accepts what God has for them; a transformed heart.

It was our last night in the country in a poor area in Alamar, Havana. Terry was inside preparing to preach and I was outside surrounded by kids (as usual), showing them some card tricks. The card tricks are really only to get their attention and to invite them into witnessing something beyond a trick; something real.

Two of the youth were of the Santaria Cult. You'll see these people beautifully dressed all in white wearing colorful beads. Though they are handsomely dressed, what they do is less than attractive. Practices involve animal sacrifices, drinking blood, cursing others, and summoning of evil spirits. In my experience, people who are involved in the occult at this level tend to have spiritual encounters with Holy Spirit the fastest; and I was excited to see what He was going to do with these two youths tonight.

All I did was place my hand on them and they winced and twisted and shrieked in excitement as they described what felt like a block of ice (and other moments fire), underneath the palm of my hand. The other youth listened with mouths wide open when I began to share with them that they could all have what I had; that what I had was a power greater than they had ever experienced in their life.

I described it as this: Imagine a room with the lights off and it's completely dark. What would happen to the darkness if one were to turn on the lights? The darkness would leave! Well, when I "turn on the lights" the things of darkness like pain, sickness, etc., leave. The Bible talks of God as being a Dad of light. And when someone opens their heart and life to Him, they become His kids. And if He is a Dad of light, what does that make His kids? Kids of light. So, wherever I go, the light shines and darkness can't be there.

The one boy was extremely interested and asked me where exactly in the Bible it talks of God as being a Dad of light. (It's in James by the way). Apparently, he had gone to church a few times and loved it. He said he felt different there. Clean.

I had Marietta our translator come and share a deeper message because her Spanish is better than mine, and the boy mentioned that he never got to pick his religion. He was raised in it and had to do things he never enjoyed doing. On top of that, he had to pay for his religion and was intrigued that the message of Jesus is that He paid for everything. There's nothing left to pay; only receive. He wanted to know Jesus more and even agreed to come to the church service Terry was preaching in. We invited him in on the spot and he was shocked, "What, like this!?" signifying that he was still dressed in all white.

"Of course. Jesus says come as you are."

He ended up going home to get his little sister and sat in on the service for a few moments. He left only because it was dinner time and his parents didn't know where he was. David Klassen took the opportunity to give the boy a Bible and blessed him with an encouraging message about the purpose of his life and how it's found in Jesus.

The boy's name? Christian. He even said, "Just like Jesus."

This trip was a confirmation of what I've always known: I want to do this with my life. This upcoming year Sandra and I are going to be praying and focusing on how we can be available for that; to do ministry full time.

What is Next:

One of our next projects is called "Balloon Evangelism." I'll be sending 1,000 balloons, a dozen balloon pumps, and some training videos on how to make balloon animals - and we'll be giving them to some of our leaders in Cuba to train their teams on making balloon animals to take out onto the streets to begin the conversations with others.

In my personal experience I've gotten into restricted areas of hospitals, invited into homes, and even had crowds of 80 or more people surrounding me all listening to the good news of Jesus, all because a balloon started the conversation. I think this is a tool to be taken advantage of and a skill very easily attainable. The cost of one balloon = 8 cents The time it takes to teach/learn = 5 minutes The cost of one conversation where someone meets Jesus = priceless I've got a long list of churches and leaders waiting for this in 5 Latin American Countries. We have lots of work ahead of us. Brian James ***BJ***



Couple Devote their lives to Rescuing Addicts... In this mission station a couple has been working for years to collect addicts off the streets and helping them recover. They energetically, joyfully extend the loving arms of Jesus and restore them to normal living. Seen here is Dr. Lewis praying for the addicts in a circle. He spoke a week earlier at the Teen Challenge Centre in Holguin at their graduation services. The Teen Challenge Centre is an amazing facility compared to this attempt by a couple who give the little they have to share with those who have nothing. Reaching the least of His they serve Jesus.



Restoration House... shown here as under construction is now finished.



The Main House is now finished with a large living room for meetings and a large dining room. It has a modern kitchen, two bathrooms and four bedrooms. We are now working on the other buildings on this large site. We have completed the laundry room that will hold two washing machines. We are now working on the two large bathrooms which will each include three stalls, three showers and three sinks. We then start renovating the horse stables into two bedrooms that are separated from the bathrooms by a hall. Then we start renovating the large garage into the training Centre. That leaves the carriage stall which we renovate into the large kitchen. Approximately, another \$20,000 is needed for these renovations to be completed and we can start housing and restoring pastor families.



Brian Challenges the Youth in their Identity

Drawing from John 15 Brian taught that as Christ was in the World, as Branches are in the Vine they are in the World. As Christ is the light of the World, they are the children of the light. They get their identity from what is inside of them and not from merely what is on the outside. This enthusiastic group of young people responded positively to this encouragement and hope because of who they are in Christ and what they



can do in Him. Let your light shine and dispel the darkness and let the Power of Christ flow through you to others.

Pregnant Women & Prayer

Yudiel and Tamor have access to young women who are in need of help with their pregnancy. One was only 13 and all had very little, if any, family support. Yudiel



shared the gospel, Tamor did skirt, Terry testified, Brian made each a balloon, and three women accepted Christ, including the 13-year-old. We provided them some care packages, prayed for them and blessed them. Please, pray for them.



Invites you to...

An Inspirational Gospel Musical Concert & Induction Service for Berhanu Ayano



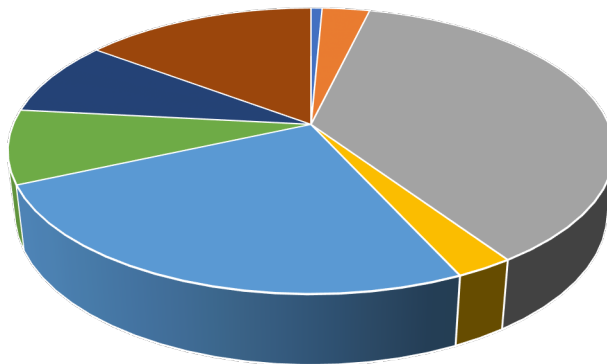
Kilcona Alliance Church, Winnipeg, November 15 @ 7 pm

Featuring; *The Chapel Brass & Men's Chorus*

Dessert Buffet Bring a Friend

A Note from Terry: This will be a great evening to meet many of our missionaries, get both video and power point reports of some of the ministries you are supporting. We will participate in the Worship of God, the Word of God, and the Work of God. Bring your family and friends and let us celebrate what God is doing. I would love to see you there.

Expenditure of \$ 409,000
January 1 - September 30, 2018



■ Africa ■ Cent. Amer ■ Cuba ■ Dom. Rep. ■ Ethiopia ■ Haiti ■ Israel ■ Canada

Focus on Prayer & Finances

Thank you for your generous support in prayer, finances, and encouragement. The chart indicates the distribution of your giving in the last 9 months. This Newsletter just focused on Cuba to give you a better idea of our work as a team. The next issues will focus on other regions.

When we are in the field there are many urgent needs that we face that were not foreseen in our budget process. We will need your help to meet our year-end requirements and are always in need of your prayers.

We are a Team...

Empowering Ministries to ...

Reach the Lost, Revive the weak, Rescue the fallen, Restore the broken, Reconcile the offended, Release the Disciplined

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