



## “Things couldn’t have gone much worse, but they also couldn’t have gone much better!”

Last month we asked you to pray for our trip inland to a little village that lies 30 minutes beyond the electrical grid.

Well, thanks for praying, because although we saw a lot of people saved, we had quite an adventure that evening!

But first, let me tell you about a great new blessing God has sent to us in the person of Mr. Jerry Hall.

Jerry is a retired American who we met last month here in Panama. He had been feeling very burdened to spend more of his time and energy in ministry, and it has been great to see how God brought us together. When Jerry heard that I was going inland to show “The Passion of the Christ” he gladly offered to come along. What a blessing that was! Jerry showed up with his GPS unit (which was the only reason we found our way home in the dark as we drove on unmarked roads in what should be called a jungle).

On top of that, Jerry brought a battery-driven DVD player and copies of Veggie Tales in Spanish. As soon as “The Passion” started to become violent, Jerry and the children left to watch Veggie Tales. There were so many children that they couldn’t all see the DVD player with it sitting on the table. As a result, he got to hold the DVD player up in the air for 1.5 hours—and stopped just in time for the children to return and see Christ rise from the grave.



That is how the night *ended*—let me tell you how it *began*. When we arrived, we set up all the equipment and started up the generator. When it came time to plug in the sound system—nothing happened but a little red light that said “protection” mode. That didn’t sound good, and no matter what we did—we had no sound.

**The generator had fried the sound system, people were walking from 2 and 3 hours away...and we had no sound!**

At this point, I should tell you that I appreciate every prayer you have sent to heaven on our behalf...and I was sending a lot more prayers heavenward. Our first thought was to go to someone’s home and borrow their stereo (but then, of course, where there is no electricity--there are no homes with stereos!)

We thought about driving back to the closest village with electricity and trying to borrow a sound system, but time was short. At the last minute, I remembered that the new mission vehicle has an auxiliary jack on the sound system. **But how would that help me?** I would need the perfect type of wire, the proper plugs, and it would have to be long enough to go from the middle of the church all the way outside and into my car. On top of that, my car stereo would have to be powerful enough to drown out the noise of the generator. At this point, I should mention two additional things:

1. The church is small and has no walls.
2. For reasons I still have not figured out, I found a cable in my bag of wires that fit the jack on the DVD player and also fit the jack on my car stereo and ran the distance between the two exactly. I don't remember buying it and cannot figure out why I would have it—but there it was. And much to my surprise, the sound was wonderful!



We just pulled the car right up to the side of the church (left) and turned the stereo up full blast...and prayed!

Just after the movie started, we were able to meet two very special families. **One had walked 2 hours to ask us to show the movie in their town. The other had walked 3 hours.** (Their picture is below and to the left)



We were also there in time to see the local school children arrive at the river just beyond this village. Unfortunately the river was a bit high and the pickup truck carrying the children home refused to drive across. As a result, the kids had to get out and walk across the little wooden bridge and then continue on foot--walking another hour or two home.



**But when it was all over, we had many people pray to accept Christ, and we now have plans to go back next week with material to help them plant purpose-driven churches in many more small villages.**

**Thanks so much for making it all possible.**

**Prayer requests:**

1. This next weekend I will be driving 4 hours inland to show “The Passion of the Christ” movie in a village with no electricity. Please pray that the mechanics of the event go well, but most importantly that many people hear the message and receive salvation.
2. Our initial training with the 23 church planter has ended, and they are in the process of beginning to start groups using their first “Purpose-Driven” small group material. Please pray that in the weeks to follow, we will see many lives changed!
3. Please support our 5 house-churches and other new cell groups in prayer. Pray that the Spirit moves greatly in the lives of our members.
4. Please pray that God continues to meet the ministry’s financial needs. We hope to see many cell groups and house churches start this next month—but we will be praying for \$2,000 above our normal support this next month to help cover the cost of these new “church planting kits”. If you are a regular supporter—**I hope you know how much we appreciate you. Thank you!**  
If you have not been a regular supporter and God is leading you to set aside a special gift to help launch new churches—you can use the address below and we will see what wonderful things God has planned!
5. All next week we will be doing door to door evangelism in Nuevo Tocumen. Our goal is to not only evangelize, but to also find homes where we can start new house churches. We would sure appreciate your prayers!

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We love to hear from you! If you want to e-mail us, or call—it’s easy.

[Panama@intergate.com](mailto:Panama@intergate.com)  
011-507-257-3591

**For those monthly ministry donations and special gifts that make this all possible:**

New Vision Ministries  
935 W. Mescalero  
Roswell, NM 88201

**And thanks again for your love, prayers and support.**