



SAKS FAMILY UPDATE

March 2011

'For I know the plans that I have for you,' declares the Lord, 'plans for welfare and not for calamity to give you a future and a hope.

Jeremiah 29:11 NASB

MINISTRY NEWS

The verse above is one of my favorites, not only for us in these uncertain times, but for the **millions of oral learners** in the world who **don't know Christ** and the **2-3 million pastors** in the world—many living and ministering in oral cultures—who have **little or no theological training**.

GUATEMALA

I was privileged to help train 32 such learners the last week in January at the Berea Bible Institute in **Huehuetenango**, Guatemala.



Berea Bible Institute in Huehuetenango, Guatemala

16 of them were **pastors** studying at the Institute one week a month, several working among the indigenous peoples of "Huehue" (pronounced "way-way")—descendants of the **Mayan Indians** and a **highly oral culture**. Others were full-time first-year students at the Institute, all planning to enter ministry in one capacity or another. Most could read and write, but some not very well; in other words, all **preferred oral learners**.

We taught using **Bible stories**, a main method **Jesus used** to teach (Mark 4:33-34).

MINISTRY NEWS (continued)

A plenary session at the Bible storytelling workshop



The **response** was **very positive**. Consider the following enthusiastic **testimonies** from two of the pastors who attended:



"This is a very effective method. It lets the group discover for itself the riches the stories have; it makes it easier to know the truths of Scripture."

Pastor Benjamín

"It's an impactful study of God's Word. I'll put it into practice because it enables us to understand the message and application God has for our lives."

Pastor Andrés



MINISTRY NEWS (continued)



Alex at Berea Bible Institute in Huehuetenango illustrating the effectiveness of teaching using Bible storytelling

Leading a "tribe" (small group) in learning a story, then making spiritual observations and applications



KENYA

I fly to **Embu**, Kenya, on April 1st to help train, record testimonies and celebrate the graduation of some 100 students from 10 **oral Bible schools** in Kenya. All are oral learners who have "put in their heart pocket" (learned) between 100-200 stories over a 12-month period—two weeks in a school away from their villages, then two weeks ministering back in their villages. It promises to be a great time that could be instrumental in **incorporating an oral methodology** into Entrust's methods and practices. **Thank you** for making it possible for me to go!



TURKEY

From Kenya, I fly to Turkey for Entrust's bi-annual All-Staff Conference, held this year in **Kuşadasi** April 13-19. All expatriate and national Entrust missionaries will be there for a time of **spiritual refreshment, challenge, vision casting and team building**. It will be a wonderful opportunity to meet them (most for the first time), learn about their ministry and discuss how oral methodology can help them carry it out in the countries where they live. **Please pray** for us to have God's wisdom during this important time together.

FAMILY NEWS

Rebekah is enjoying her second semester at Belhaven University in Jackson, MS. She's doing well academically, is in three choirs, works in the Admissions Office, finds time to practice piano 12 hours a week, and was chosen out of 50 applicants to be one of only seven new Resident Assistants next year.

Anna turned 17 this month and is getting her driver's license! She stays busy with school (including a difficult Algebra class at a local community college), taking *and* teaching piano lessons, playing violin at church, singing in two choirs, and being the dance captain in the production of *Music Man* at a local church.

Daniel turns 12 in April! He enjoys AWANA, where he'll receive the Timothy Award in May for memorizing 423 Bible verses, just earned the rank of Second Class in Boy Scouts, and is on YMCA swim and basketball teams.

WE PRAISE GOD FOR:

1. 27 years of fruitful ministry
2. Wonderful results in Guatemala
3. The development of oral Bible schools
4. Your ministry partnership with us!

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

1. God to move in Embu and Kuşadasi
2. The Kenyan graduates as they return to witness and minister in their villages
3. That Entrust's ministry partner in Kenya will be able to attend the event in Embu
4. Increased support to continue working in this field overseas (we are still only roughly at 33% of the required amount)

Thank you for donating to Acct. #126 at:



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