

Rainy Season Makes Things Grow

...So Bring On The Rain!!!!

The Lord will guide you always; he will satisfy your needs in a sun-scorched land and will strengthen your frame. You will be like a well-watered garden, like a spring whose waters never fail. Isaiah 58:11



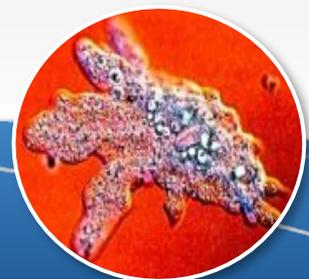
May is the beginning of the rainy season in Guatemala.

The beautiful, sunny, temperate weather of Guatemala that we've grown used to has been replaced by humidity, rain at least once almost every day, cloudiness, and that sense of dreariness that can come with continued rain. Along with the rainy season in Guatemala seems to have come a bit of a rainy season in our lives. Not that things are going bad and it's certainly not a stormy time in our lives; Praise Jesus! Things are just kind of "asi asi" as you would say in Spanish which means "so so." We're plugging away at learning Spanish and the culture but it FEELS like we're not really doing a lot of within our ministry. Missy has had an ongoing illness from amoebas for about 3 weeks now and we're looking at another week of treatment at least before she's completely better. We were thinking of going to spend a weekend visiting Jon and some of the families in our Serving At Risk Families ministry, visiting Pastor Jorge and his family, and visiting our friends at New Life Children's Home but because of Missy's illness that is on hold. It's just kind of a drab time for us.

It's also a time of continued adjustment in our marriage as we're living in one bedroom and it literally feels at times like we are ALWAYS in each other's way. Thank God for the terrace so we have at least a little more space. Our monthly date night keeps getting put off and we've had to deal with an ongoing illness and the struggles and tiredness that comes with that. We're very thankful every day that it's not a permanent illness. We're also thankful that we always have the

Kids Restaurant

This is where we have been trying to go on our date night. It is a restaurant completely run by kids (under adult supervision). The project was started to teach children work, social, and team development skills. They also take classes to learn about restaurant management. The children go to the market to buy all the food for a 3-course meal served Friday nights. Half the children cook the meal & half serve the meal. They switch every week so they get to experience both. They also change the country/theme every month so the children learn about other food/cultures.



Here's a picture of an amoeba. They are a part of everyday life in Guatemala. Amoebas are particularly prevalent during the beginning of the rainy season.

consistency and encouragement we find in God's word and a lot of encouragement from our friends and family. Like an e-mail that we got in response to Dylan's last blog. This e-mail was from our dear Aunt Cille reminding us that God is at work even in the mundane times. We also were very encouraged this week by a prayer from our friend Barb who writes us a new prayer every week. This week the prayer was focusing on the above verse which God truly used to encourage us.

He spoke to us in a big way through Isaiah 58:11 by reminding us that He will guide us always and that at times we will feel like we are in a sun-scorched land but He will strengthen us. He tells us we will be like a well-watered garden like a spring that never fails and He also reminded us that for those things to happen you have to have the rainy seasons. God reminded us that rain makes things grow. As one of our teachers shared with us in missions school life is like being a seed. We're put on the ground and things are going great the sun is shining and we're feeling good. But then it starts to get hot and dry and we get covered with dirt and we don't understand why. Then to make matters worse the rain comes and it feels good at first after being sun-scorched but then it starts to feel like too much and we might start to feel like we're drowning. This is the point where most people "crawl out" and give up. But if we'll just hang on during the rainy seasons the sun will return again and growth will start and slowly we'll push our way out of the dirt and grow into what we were designed to be in the first place. However, if we give up during the rainy season we'll never see that growth and we'll always be JUST a seed.

So while it seems like the rainy season is taking over right now, while it seems like we're just plugging on with learning Spanish, doing the day to day normal stuff, and facing the challenges that sometimes come in life, we know that this is a time of growth. God is growing us in so many ways so that we can be what He wants us to be for the ministry He's called us to. So we can have the basic language skills we need to continue to grow in the Spanish language, so we know how to have patience, to be still and wait on the Lord, so we can have so many of the things we need and are going to continue to need in this ministry. We're determined not to crawl out in the

It's hard to study out on the terrace when it's all wet! AND we can't see the volcano when it's so cloudy!



middle of the rainy season. Even though it's uncomfortable at times, it's dreary, and we don't always like it, we know that it's important for our growth. We thank Jesus for that growth and for continuing to make us into the people He's designed us to be.

We thank all of you so much for all the ways you continue to allow God to use you to be a part of the ways that He encourages us! Your prayers, uplifting e-mails, love, and support mean so much to us! We also appreciate all of the ways that so many of you help us that may seem "the little things" like picking up prescriptions to send in July, giving ideas to ward off mosquitos, getting us things we can't get here to send us in July, or any of the other many things you all do! We are so grateful for everything and none of it is ever a "little thing" to us! We are also grateful to those of you who have reached out and asked us to partner with you for praying for specific things. It is a blessing and honor for us to be able to join you in prayer and we encourage you to never hesitate to reach out to us. It's how we all grow together!

Love,

Missy and Dylan Brobst
Uniting 2 Serve