



GREETINGS FROM THE GRIFFINS

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It's NOT a dry heat. It's a rain forest!

It's ninety-three in the shade, with about 90% humidity. The air is so thick with moisture it is hard to breathe. You can almost feel the water in it. The sweat runs down our backs, necks, and legs, our clothes are soaked from it. A breeze would help but the stillness will not provide any release from the agony of the oppressive heat. We have work to do, but find it difficult to function. We water the plantains, hibiscus and some grass we planted the other day. Even with the stifling humidity these plants need a constant supply of water, and we haven't had any rain for several days now. We are headed into the dry season.



At night we lay on sheets soaked by our sweat. An electric fan would help but without electricity what is the point? We hope for a breeze and the cool of the evening to help us sleep. Sometimes that doesn't arrive until one or two in the morning.

This is the place the Lord has called us to. We are not complaining mind you, just painting a picture of a typical day in the rain forest of Belize, Central America.

Sunday 1 (Bill) preached a message at our church. The title "Is God pleased with our worship". Later in the day we enjoyed a cold coke with some candy to give ourselves a treat. It was a good day. At the evening service I was overcome with the presence of the Holy Spirit. I was filled with complete joy. The joy that can only come from our God and Savior. What an amazing emotion that is. I wish I could impart it to all of you, but only God can do that. I felt He was telling me that He was working in His children's lives and we were apart of His joy in their spiritual growth. We give God the glory for all He does.

Oswald Chambers "My Utmost For His Highest"
Daily Devotional September 30th

"I now rejoice in my sufferings for you, and fill up in my flesh what is lacking in the afflictions of Christ, for the sake of His body, which is the church...." Colossians 1:24

We take our own spiritual consecration and try to make it into a call of God, but when we get right with Him He brushes all this aside. Then He gives us a tremendous, riveting pain to fasten our attention on something that we never even dreamed could be His call for us. And for one radiant, flashing moment we see His purpose, and we say "Here am I! Send me." (Isaiah 6:8)

This call has nothing to do with personal sanctification, but with being made broken bread and poured-out wine. Yet God can never make us into wine if we object

to the fingers He chooses to use to crush us. We say, "If God would only use His own fingers, and make me broken bread and poured-out wine in a special way, then I wouldn't object!" But when He uses someone we dislike, or some set of circumstances to which we said we would never submit, to crush us, then we object. Yet we must never try to choose the place of our own martyrdom. If we are ever going to be made into wine, we will have to be crushed-you cannot drink grapes. Grapes become wine only when they have been squeezed.

I wonder what finger and thumb God has been using to squeeze you? Have you been as hard as a marble and escaped? If you are not ripe yet, and if God had squeezed you anyway, the wine produced would have been remarkably bitter. To be a holy person means that the elements of our natural life experience the very presence of God as they are providentially broken in His service. We have to be placed into God and brought into agreement with Him before we can be broken bread in His hands. Stay right with God and let Him do as He likes, and you will find that He is producing the kind of bread and wine that will benefit His other children.

We would never choose a different life for ourselves other than the one God has ordained. It is our earnest desire to do His will and live in perfect fellowship with Him. In the rain forest, without electricity, and other pleasures of life are of no concern. Only to know and serve Him.

It has taken us almost two years to be accepted into the Belize culture, and the Baptist church we attend. Well, by accept I don't mean totally. It is a lot more complicated than that. But I can say that we are making progress, and people are now asking us for our opinions and for personal, marriage, and spiritual counseling. As a foreign missionary to Belize we have to guide and help without offense. We have to commit huge amounts of time and patience to each personal relationship. We have to exemplify the love of Jesus in all we do. This is not accomplished in a few weeks or even months. It takes years to establish true relationships that allow spiritual growth.

In other news

- Our second "Experiencing God" class starts Tuesday October 2nd
- Kwipaya is about ready to deliver her puppies. Due October 15th
- We are getting ready to attend another C.E.F. class for Good News Clubs
- We are looking forward to meeting Med Skeens and his team, due to arrive October 19th, and to see what the Lord has in mind for all of us.
- Please be in prayer for us as we continue to reach out to the Belizean people and guide them into a deeper spiritual relationship with Jesus Christ.

Please accept our heartfelt thanks for your prayers and financial support. We truly appreciate all you do. It takes the army of God working together to fight the battle the Lord has called us all to.
To God be the Glory great things He has done.