

March 2009

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The Simpsons Working in El Salvador

S E R V I N G O U R G O D I N S A N T A A N A

PLEASE PRAY

- Wisdom to know how to best serve with the MBI
- Commitment to God from each couple we are meeting with
- Strength from God for each of the Sunday School teachers
- Wisdom from God for the leaders of our church

WHAT IS NEW WITH US

We have had a good start to a great year. Jon is teaching his second class this year and enjoys the class time. We have continued our Young Married's Group and our Serious Dating Group. God has given each group a special message and it is encouraging to see as God works it out in each couple.

In Sunday School, we have had many hardships in the lives of most of our teachers. God is reaching out and saving us and most have responded with grateful hearts and growing faith.

Who is in control? We used to think we could control what went on in our lives. We used to think we could change things. We used to think that if we couldn't change things, we would learn to live in spite of it all. Now, there are no answers. Now, we are realizing we are not in control. Never were. Never will be. So, what is our next plan? We think we need to figure out how to survive. But God is teaching me something different. God is teaching me that He is truly in control and that things are going exactly how He planned them. He is teaching me the reality of the condition of my heart. He is teaching me the

Jon meets on a weekly basis with the other pastors of our church. They pray and seek God's will for their lives and the lives of those in the church.

Every Saturday, we go to the land God has given us on which to build a church. We work the land and prepare it for the future. The results are slow but our hearts are strengthened.

reality of the condition of His Church's heart. The truth is, we are not interested in living for God, in serving Him, especially if it is going to cause me this much pain. Where is the God that rescues His people? You know what? He is rescuing us, you and me, right now. He is saving you and me from the wickedness of our own hearts. I need to suffer. I need to lose. I need to be abandoned. I need to be destitute – so does each of us – because only then will we realize that we are sinners and that we are lost without our Savior. You know what is the hardest part (*once you realize that you're lost and say yes to*

We are where God wants us. We are serving Him and seeking to humble ourselves and obey Him. Life is complete in Him.

Elizabeth and Jonathan love their new school. We have all struggled (mostly me) with the changes, but I see God's hand in control and working in our lives. It is nice to rest in Him.

God)? He asks for something from you; He wants your soul for Him alone, not to be shared with other gods but to be placed at the Cross and to live out whatever He knows I need.

I have also learned what I really deserve. For Justice to be served, I must receive death. Anything else I receive is a merciful gift from a loving God. Don't let the illusion of a passing world distract you from the reality of God's love and mercy. What is happening in the world today is God's loving and merciful hand at work, daily trying to save each of us from a life and an eternity without Him.

Our hearts and prayers are with you. Many are struggling these days but we have a Hope that outlasts any difficult time. May God speak to you, console your heart and guide you always.

May God bless each of your lives as you have blessed ours.

All our love,

Jon & Kelly