

January-February 2013 Mission Trip to Honduras Bob Young

On Tuesday January 22 I flew to Honduras. I was scheduled to travel on Monday, but when I arrived at the airport just before 5 AM Monday, the agent told me there was no way to get to Honduras that day due to delays from the day before. The Tuesday flight was smooth and by late afternoon I was settled on campus at Baxter. I had determined to spend the first day at Baxter, primarily so I could spend some unrushed time with Steve and Dianna Teel. We went to Cascadas Mall for dinner, and as I sat eating ice cream at Sarita's, I saw David Chacon, church leaders from Catacamas, across the mall. We were able to finalize some of the plans for my time in Catacamas. David was also able to meet the Teels.

On Wednesday I traveled to Catacamas by bus, arriving late afternoon. I went to visit Marcio Matamoras in his shop, and he extended an invitation to preach on Sunday at El Colegio, an invitation which I was unable to accept since my Sunday was already fully scheduled. We visited at length about the need for and challenges of developing leaders in the local churches. I settled in with Dwight and Joanne Tomkins and spent the rest of the evening getting ready for the daily seminar sessions with area preachers on Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

The seminars were scheduled 9AM-1PM each day with lunch afterward. In 12 hours of seminar presentations, I tried to condense the major points of a semester class in sermon development. **[Picture right, some of the brothers who attended the seminar]** In addition, I accepted preaching and teaching opportunities every day. Thursday after lunch, I went to Nuevo Progreso to teach the 3:30 PM Bible class. Friday after lunch, I went to San Isidro to teach the 4 PM Bible class. Saturday after lunch, I went to Jicaro Gordo to say a few words to a group from the community who were receiving diplomas for completing computer courses taught by Dwight.



I preached at Colonia Agricola Sunday morning and at Hormiguero (Ant Hill) Sunday afternoon.



At Colonia Agricola, there were 80 present—45 adults and 35 children. This is a new church plant that is being helped by a nearby congregation. **[Picture left, the assembly at Colonia Agricola]** They meet one month at the new location, then one month at the location of the older church, continuing until the new church is sufficiently strong. The goal is to establish a chain of churches; the next locations have already been selected. This is being done mostly without US dollars! Sunday afternoon on the way to Hormiguero I saw a sign that indicated we could choose either to go to Ant Hill or to Culebrero (Snake Pit). Interesting names! After evening services, we stopped to visit a

brother who had serious heart problems and was confined to home. He was very appreciative of the visit and prayers. In summary, in Catacamas I taught and preached 17 hours during the four days, visiting five congregations and spending time with leaders from four other congregations.

On Monday, I returned to Tegucigalpa to spend two days at Baxter. Tuesday was the first day of classes at Baxter and I was present to assist with a brief presidential inauguration ceremony. It was good to spend time with Jason Tenison who was on campus before he went to Talanga to visit the work in which Park Plaza has been involved. **[Picture right, Jason Tenison and the Teels]** On Wednesday I visited with and met more of the students, especially first year students. While on campus, I was able to take care of several Board of Trustees details.



Early Thursday morning I flew to San Pedro Sula for a weekend with the church in Barrio Cabañas. (A special thanks to Steve Teel for having me at the airport at 6 AM!) Jacobo Chalco, Baxter graduate from 1971, joined me in the effort in San Pedro Sula. During the weekend of teaching and preaching with various visits and evangelistic Bible studies, there were three baptisms. Saturday, at the request of the current elders, we met with an elder candidate and his wife to answer their questions and help evaluate their potential service. It was a privilege to assist with the installation of the new elder on Sunday. The church now has three elders. **[Picture left, elder installation service]**

Monday and Tuesday we spent in Omoa where there was another baptism. We spent the two days visiting and encouraging the church, with two hours of Bible teaching on Monday night, resulting in one sister requesting restoration. **[Pictured, two of the four baptisms on this trip.]**



In summary, the few days in northern Honduras resulted in four baptisms, one restoration, a new elder installed in Barrio Cabanas, several evangelistic Bible studies, visits in the homes of members to encourage and strengthen the church, and teaching and preaching every afternoon and evening.



Seventeen days of teaching and preaching! To God be the glory! I love to tell these stories in person—let me know if I could visit your congregation for a mission report or mission emphasis Sunday.