

Mission Snapshot



FAITH CAMP 2013

Faith Camp is one of our most important missionary outreaches in the United States. Every year, hundreds of junior high campers and high school and college age staff are set on fire with the Holy Spirit, learn how to live a Christian Life, and go out to serve in their homes and communities.

This year, we will have the biggest Faith Camp yet. Our theme is *Rise Up* - calling young Catholics out of complacency in their faith and into radical lives of holiness and building the Kingdom of God. Please keep Faith Camp in your prayers, and all of the staff, campers, donors and volunteers who make this awesome work of God possible. Many youth have met the Lord at Faith Camp and later chosen to become priests, youth ministers, and even missionaries, thanks to your prayers and support.



"Go into the whole world and proclaim the Gospel"

Mark 16:15

Compelled by Jesus' missionary mandate, and filled with the Holy Spirit, Family Missions Company missionaries proclaim Jesus Christ and His Gospel to the poor. Always working in concert with the pastors of the Catholic Church, we strive to live the Gospel that we preach. We believe the Lord is calling many Catholic lay people, both singles and families, to serve in foreign missions, "the greatest and holiest duty of the Church" (Vatican II).

The need is urgent;

we must GO!



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June- July 2013

Dear Benefactors,
God is calling many new laborers to His vineyard. Intake 2013 is shaping up to be our biggest yet. Thank you for helping our missionaries to say yes to Jesus. This month we hear from the Seilhan family who sold all they own to follow God's call into foreign mission, from our missionaries building chapels in the Amazon, and from our stateside Faith Camp outreach. None of this mighty work of God would be possible without you. May God abundantly bless you.

THANK YOU

for your support of
Family Missions Company!



THANKS!

From the Field:



Yes, We're Scared –Melissa Seilhan

Most normal human beings fear the unknown more than anything else--- as a family going into missions we have A LOT of unknowns at this point. Where will we go? Will it be safe? Will the people accept us? Will we be able to understand them? Will they be able to understand us? Do we know enough to go out and preach? And the BIG ONE...Will we have enough money to feed and care for our own family's needs? Yes, we are scared. So, why are we doing this? Because this is what God is asking us to do. That's the one thing



The Seilhan Family

that keeps us from turning around and running the other way---God chose us to do this. Why us? We ask ourselves that question ALL the time. And we still have no idea why, but we know that we can't tell God "No," especially after trying to teach our kids that God's will is the only will that we should follow.

This is what I think people do not understand. We did NOT chose this life for ourselves. If it were our choice, we'd stay right here in Louisiana - surrounded by all the people we love, all the things we've worked so hard for, in a place that is familiar and comfortable with AC and hot water!

Sometimes I feel as though people think we are doing this because we think that we are "holier" than them. Nothing could be further from the truth. We know the real us better than anyone. We know that we are definitely not "holier" than anyone else. There are lots of people we know who are far more holy and better qualified for this call, and sometimes we wish He would have called them instead.

We are regular people like everyone else. Our kids fight, disobey, talk back, etc. We lose our cool and yell at them, lose our patience with each other sometimes. We fail to love everyone as Christ does. We neglect our prayer life at times. We get caught up in worldly things. We have a sinful nature. We struggle like everyone else to stay the course and to keep our path straight. Going through this journey has taught us that we have far to go in our relationship with Christ. It has shown us that we have so much learning and growing to do.

We learned that we liked our nice, quiet life out in the country. We hate having to speak publicly and asking others to support us financially. But we have come to realize, after trying to keep our need private, that we can't do it alone. We tried to figure out how to do this on our own many times! We tried to save up our own money to build our mission fund, so we wouldn't have to ask others to support us. We have been fundraising and selling our things for almost a year. Each time we got ahead, some catastrophe came along and wiped out that extra money. We finally realized that God was trying to teach us to let go and to trust Him. Once we let go amazing things began happening in our journey. We discovered that the more people we shared our story with, the more people we had praying for us. The more people we had praying for us, the better things began to work out. The better things work out for us, the less scared we are becoming as we go.



Miracle Report

Matthew Holland Reports from Ecuador:

God uses us to be miracles of provision for one another. While visiting one of the jungle villages, a young blind man joined us at First Communion Mass. Father Jose saw his need and decided to give him the collection, which different members of the community were putting in a plastic lid. They have very little but were very willing to share it with the man in need. It was so moving to see the man's amazement at his community's generosity. After Mass he gave me and Father a big hug. He was so grateful and so gracious!

We also got to see the progress being made on a chapel at Chonta Punta, another village in the Amazon. The people have been working really hard to get the chapel ready for next week in anticipation of the Bishop coming to say Mass. It is beautiful to see the collaboration between our benefactors in the US who have contributed to the building, and the hard work of the village whose faithful Catholics are so excited to have a "big, beautiful church." Though it is made of cinder blocks with a tin roof, they are so happy that it will hold everyone and keep out the rain. Praise God!

Mission Message

"This is very beautiful! Jesus does not want to act alone....he forms immediately a community of disciples, which is a missionary community."

- Pope Francis