

Memo: Week 4 of Oct 26 in Barbados

It was a week of blessings; I hope I have not got to work.

Oct 26 Sun

Went to Six Roads CC, service starts at 8:30, Sing started and by 9:00 there were around 50 adults in the worship service and 20 Children, ages 7-11 for junior church. They go around the neighborhood and pick up the kids. At 10:30, the service was over and Sunday school starts at 10:45. We jumped into the car and headed for Grazettes, Dale preached at both places.

Grazettes hold Sunday school first and then worship service.

At Six Roads, several women remembered me from camp and told me to say Hi to Kandi, and asked how she was doing. Some of them knew that we were coming down and some did not.

Then at Grazettes some of the kids remembered and said Hi, and asked how Kandi was.

Sunday afternoon Dale brought me back to Kenroy's. Stephanie was washing clothes and Ken and the kids were resting.

Went to Church Village CC Sunday night. There were about 24 that evening. Heard all about the mission trip to Antigua .

Oct 27 Mon

Today I went with Kenroy when he took Stephanie to work. We took Preston to Pre School and we had McKenna (sp) (about 6 months old) all day. We stopped at a computer repair store.

Then he took me to see a Custom Broker to get some information. Then to a shipping co. and got more information. Then we took Ken's mother to the doctor for her yearly check up.

We got home around 6:15 PM. It was a long day.

Oct 28 Tue

Another day with Kenroy. Stopped at different places for information about moving to Barbados . I'm getting a lot of information, some good and some not so good. Found out that only nationals can bring a car in with no tariff fees. Non citizens, the tariff fees are about 89% of the worth of the car. Cost of shipping is determined by the size of the container. We can bring in our personal household furniture and other household items without a tariff fee. Checked on different areas to live in. There seems to be several houses too that are in good locations and reasonably priced. The real Estate people tell you to let them know about 30- days before we come down and they will start looking. Well, Kenroy finally got what every boy wants. He got a crew cab Mitsubishi pickup. We stopped at another computer store and while I was waiting, I struck up a conversation with one the employees and a customer. They always ask how long I am going to stay, and are surprised when I tell them. They seem interested in what God is *not* doing in the world today and why. We have to leave and I told them, "I'll be back". Maybe another Bible study, God willing. Oh yes, we ate lunch on Miami Beach . That's where they do most of their baptisms. Stopped at a music store and while Ken was getting a Keyboard for the church, he introduced me to a fellow pastor for another church. We talked for about two hours about planting churches and revivals. He had some good insight about what works and does not work with the Bajan people.

Oct 29 Wed

Today we are staying home; Kenroy is working on his sermon. He asks me if I knew anything about "Bible Bowl". I told him I have only heard about it and never participated in it. They are planning one for this December. He asked me to generate questions on the book of Philippians. So far, I have 61 questions.

I need to wash clothes, but Kenroy beat me to the washer.

We must remember to keep all the churches in our prayers, mostly for spiritual guidance, and unity.

Prayer meeting tonight at Church Village CC. Had around 12 people. Sang and worshiped for about 30 minutes and had prayer request for about 15 minutes, and prayers for about 20 minutes. One of the brothers asked me if I was a Bajan yet, I told him maybe half Bajan. Just a few sprinkles today, with a nice breeze.

Oct 30 Thur

My morning devotion. A few days ago, my morning devotion was in Psalms 18 and every morning since I start with Psalm 18:2, 3 before I go the next Psalms. *"Psalm 18:2-3 The LORD is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer; my God is my rock, in whom I take refuge. He is my shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold. ³ I call to the LORD, who is worthy of praise, and I am saved from my enemies. NIV*

Another day of checking out the area, and stopping to check on prices. We took the pickup.

I met Sister Marshall, she is the one that sings "Walk Holy". She's one of the people that has a little cart and sells Snow Cones. She is one of the busiest on the island. I bought a snow cone and introduced myself as her new fan. We talked while she sold cone after cone. We talked for about 30 minutes. She will have her second CD out next year. She really draws a crowd when she is involved in a concert. Need to have Tricia get her new CD for me.

Tonight was men's fellowship night. They plan actives and projects. At 5:00PM, Ken asks me if I would give a summery of the book of Philippians. He said give something for about 30 minutes. (O, help me God.) Well I did, but not for 30 minutes, it took me about 50 minutes.

They all sat and listened. There were only five men there tonight; Kenroy said there are normally 8-10 men. No rain today, had a nice breeze.

Oct 31 Fri

Washed clothes today. This culture is different in so many ways, yet it is the same as ours in the states. My experience with the different individuals here on the island has shown me more than I expected. God is truly working on me. We must relate to those who are different from us.

In relating to those Different from us, we need to look at the woman at the well.

"The Samaritan woman said to him, 'You are a Jew and I am a Samaritan woman. How can you ask me for a drink?'" (John 4:9).

Do we find it difficult to relate to others who are different from us? Do we shy away from interacting with those who may look different or have a different belief?

Jesus interacted with his culture and especially those who thought differently than He did. When Jesus met the Samaritan woman at the well, it was much like a Christian speaking to a Muslim, or a non-Christian. Jesus built a relationship with the woman instead of taking an opposing (adversarial) position.

In order to influence our culture that we are in, it is vital that we as believers engage with those unlike us. We often assume others who come from other cultures do not want to engage with us. This is a deception from Satan. Many who grow up in other faiths do so as a cultural tradition, not because they have strongly held beliefs. For instance, many Muslims do not know what is in the Quran and simply believe what they are taught based on tradition. Just as others who have heard of Jesus but only been taught on tradition and not God's Word.

Every person is looking for a genuine relationship with God. Moreover, Jesus operated based on that assumption. Let us use what Christ has taught us.

Once Jesus established a rapport (relationship) with the woman, He began to engage with her. He spoke and showed concern for her life, which broke through the religious spirit, which prevented a theological debate. This led to faith in Christ and even the city being impacted.

Why not seek out a relationship with someone different from yourself. You'll be surprised how God might use you. Read John 4:4-26

God, what do you have in store for us? All I know is that I must be available to and for Him. Here I am, fill me, mold me to your will.

Kenroy worked on Sunday's sermon.

No rain today, just a nice breeze

It was a day of reading and studying and resting for me.

Friday night we picked up six kids for youth group. Got to church around 8:00. We were late. There were 15 young kids and 3 adults. They had a short lesson on attitude and then rehearsed for a drama they will be putting on in Dec. After youth group Ken and I stopped and got some ribs, you know where. (Kandi's favorite.)

Nov 1st Sat

Was to meet with Kenroy's insurance agent. Things changed. Ken got a call that one of the preachers from Antigua needed a ride from the airport, so Ken went and got him, and brought him to the house. Romeo was his name. This was around 8:00AM, Ken had a class on masonry, (how to lay concrete blocks). So it was Stephanie, Preston, McKenna (sp), Romeo and I left at home. We all went with Stephanie to run errands and at 11:00AM we went to the airport to pick up Romeo's wife and son. We then took them to Sister Millers where they were to stay until Tue when they catch a plane home. They came to Barbados to get a Visa for the USA. After we left them at Sister Millers, Stephanie and the kids and me went grocery shopping. McKenna and I got alone just fine; I entertained her for about 3 hours. We got home and cleaned house, because there was a couple coming to see the house. Their house is for sale.

Tonight we went to Oisten's to the fish market, and got some grilled Marlin. Took it to Miami Beach and ate it on the beach. There was a sliver of a moon out.

Tomorrow is going to be a busy day; we are scheduled to go to two churches.

Check out our web site www.secaribmission.org
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Blessings in Christ,