

# THE RHOADES

## MISSIONARIES TO GUYANA, SOUTH AMERICA

“ God saves us for more than to escape Hell, He has saved us to share Christ worldwide. - Anonymous ”



Dear Pastors, Friends and Supporting Churches,

December 2014

We pray that you all had a wonderful Christmas this past month of December. Our family would like to thank those that sent in extra for a Christmas gift, for the past month of December. It was a surprise and we are deeply grateful! This past year has been a treasure of new friends and churches that have partnered with us in prayer and finances.

At the beginning of December, We went to go and visit Brother Dean and Sister Patty Runyon in Port Kaituma, Guyana South America. He had invited us to visit them this past fall. We were able to take a list of items that Brother Dean asked for us to bring. Brother Dean and Sister Patty have been serving the Lord for 15 years. They have been instrumental in church planting, and assisting other missionary families in Guyana. There was urgency surrounding this trip. Since Brother Dean has been serving in Guyana, he has had 3 heart attacks and a broken back. After the third heart attack, he was flown to Florida for treatment. In the last two years, Brother Dean has had 15 surgeries due to complications with his heart attacks. He has had his large colon removed and is on a permanent liquid diet. He is scheduled for an MRI in January, due to constant pain in his abdomen. Our entire family arrived in Port Kaituma with excitement and a new realization of the conditions of the jungle. We flew in from Georgetown Guyana, on a 14 passenger prop airplane

and landed at a asphalt/mud airfield. Mrs. Vashtee and Mercy Joy caught a fever and Josh Jr. caught the Dengue Fever the first 24 hours in Port Kaituma. Thankfully, we were able to get medication from the doctor's office. Their health improved as the week progressed. Thank you to the many people that prayed for my family's health! The prayers of God's people were heard and answered! Brother Dean asked for me to preach the entire first Sunday at Lighthouse Baptist Church. That Sunday, 4 ladies were gloriously saved! There was close to 200 people for the services and over 150 for the Thursday service. The following Sunday, Brother Dean asked for me to help baptize the folks that were saved the previous Sunday, and 8 others that were saved before we arrived. It was an amazing week! One of the men from Lighthouse Baptist Church, Brother Louis was a great encouragement and help. Brother Louis and I made a trip to go further into the jungle visiting the town of 4 Mile, passing Jonestown on a logging road, crossing the Barima River and the village of Fallstop.

### PRAISES

1. Receiving support from new churches
2. Josh Jr. health being restored from having Dengue Fever
3. Arriving at 60% in 2014
4. The 4 souls and 12 baptized on our visit to Brother Dean

### PRAYER REQUESTS

1. Wisdom in daily decisions
2. For churches to partner with us for the remaining 40%
3. A Honda 10,000 watt generator
4. 4 Katadyn Drip Ceradyn water filters (Brother Runyon's recommendation)

(OVER)



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I was surprised to find people that asked me "What was a Bible?" and "Who is Jesus?". It was a great joy to be able to share the Gospel with those that we met that day. I was overwhelmed by finding villages and towns where there was no Gospel being proclaimed in any manner! I walked in and near two churches that were no longer being used at all, that had once been a Fundamental Gospel Bible Believing Baptist Churches. The fact of the overwhelming need for laborers was intense. Brother Louis and I returned from our trip and I was looking forward to talking with Brother Dean. Brother Dean and I talked with each other a great deal throughout the week. We were asked to come and co-labor with Brother Dean. It is after much prayer and counsel from our pastor, that we accepted the invitation to serve in Port Kaituma, Guyana South America. There are facilities at Lighthouse Baptist Church that will be used in the training of men and women that want to serve the Lord. Due to Brother Dean's health concerns, and God's leading further into the heart of Guyana, we are praying the Lord will provide the last 40% our support in 2015.

After our return from Guyana, we were able to present at Fellowship Baptist Church with Pastor Schneider in Upper Marlboro Maryland. Pastor Schneider and the church family were a tremendous blessing to our family! It was a joy to stay in the home of Brother Dan and Sister Jeanne Fisher, while we were at Fellowship Baptist Church. Please pray with us that the Lord will fill our schedule, in order for us to be in Guyana by December of 2015.

Looking unto Jesus,

Joshua Rhoades, Acts 26:18