

## The Heart Of A Lady

Sheryl and I just got home from Guyana last night. We are exhausted.



1

Training was great. Thanks for making it possible for us to go.

It was HOT and HUMID all the time. Food was an adventure as was getting around town in buses or taxi's. The hospitality we experienced from the people who invited us was wonderful.

Ten days of heaven is almost too much to handle when we are still connected to this earth.

I can't seem to focus my mind on any one aspect of the trip except for Pat.

We met her on Monday night and got to know her during the training times. She is short, quiet and was hungry to learn how she could change the lives of *her kids*.

The Church who hosted the training has had an outreach into a squalid embarrassment of a neighborhood in the capital city of Guyana. This neighborhood used to be the quarantine site for sick animals from the Georgetown Zoo. Now it is home for 70 kids and their families who live in left over holding pens and scrap lumber shacks.



3

Pat has led this outreach for the past three years. She has been there every week teaching Sunday School and on Wednesday evening leading a Bible Study.

This happens out of a wall less shed with four pews and a blackboard put up by the Church in the center of this community.

I could talk about the people, the squalor, the lack of all services and the smell. That smell will last in my mind

forever - but even more powerful than the smell was the love I saw in Pat's eyes as she called her kids to come and meet us as we wandered along the paths of that little community.

I think God sent us to Guyana just to train Pat.

There were twelve people who attended the training from seven different Churches in and around Georgetown. All of them have a plan to use the training to reach out to their community. I have no doubt that God will raise up a number of SAY Yes! Centers and the people who interact with kids and



2

When we demonstrated an experiential learning tool Pat was always first in line. If we had two or three teams competing against each other, Pat's team won or at least came close to winning.

We taught her how to get organized, how to recruit and train other volunteers and how to decide what the goals were for the ministry and how to stay focused on those rather than being distracted by what might seem to be important at the moment.

We talked a lot about the difference between the qualities in a person's life and the circumstances of their lives. If we focus on the circumstances we will burn out - the needs are always greater than our resources. If we focus on the qualities in a person's life we can see success even in situations that appear hopeless.

Your financial support, and your prayers while we were there made it physically possible for us to do the training.



7

Thank you for giving us the opportunity to help Pat find a way to continue touching these lives for Jesus.

As she led us from house to house she would tell us the stories of the families. Finally, with tears in her eyes she said "It is so hard to be here. To see this. I love them so much - I just can't not be here. Thank you for helping me see how to impact their lives one child at a time."

You made a choice to send us. We made the choice to go. Pat's choice is to make a difference in this community, one life at a time.



4



5

families will use Life Is Full Of Choices to help change lives. The first night, Pat explained that she was attending our training because she needed help figuring out how to reach these people. "The needs are so great, I am overwhelmed when I go out there, but God won't let me stay away. Can you help me reach them for Jesus."



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### Answered Prayer

God protected us physically from sickness and injury while we were in Guyana.

Brian is doing much better at work now. Thank you for praying.

God provided all the financial support we needed for our trip to Guyana through you. Thank you.

### Prayer Requests

Pray for Allisdon who is going to be starting the S.A.Y. Yes! Ministry in Guyana.

I am teaching a Parenting Seminar in a local Church the first two weeks in June. Pray that parents would be receptive to the concepts of Life Is Full Of Choices

In His grip,

*John*  
for John and Sheryl Emra

### Photos:

- 1- Pat with her kids
- 2- Typical house
- 3- Sheryl and Pat in front of the new SAY Yes! Center
- 4- Sheryl with the group
- 5- Training
- 6- Experiential Learning
- 7- More of Pat's kids