

JOHNNY  
& IVONNE  
CRUZ

inste.al@gmail.com

### Dear friend:

Here are some of the adventures that have taken place in a month's time, as we prepare to establish the INSTE office for Latin America and Spain in Pensacola in November. The Lord has been good to us!

### Finishing well: Sunday, June 27th

I preached my last message as pastor of the Logos Church today. It was a great celebration, at times with great joy, at moments with tears. After 30 years of loving and serving these people, it felt strange, sort of like saying goodbye for the last time to somebody you love. Over the years, we have had our share of discouragements and made many mistakes. But overall, it has been a source of deep satisfaction, especially as we matured in the ministry. As we turn the church over to an exceptionally gifted pastor, there is an important lesson to be learned. If the Lord calls you to do something, just keep obeying. The church's next stage is looking amazing. There's a picture for you of what the church looked like today. About half of the members are not there due to the Covid pandemic, which has hit Honduras especially hard.



### On the road again: Friday, July 9th

I need to travel to South America, though that is impossible for the moment, Covid has hit the region with fury. Peru has some of the highest death rates in the world from the pandemic. I especially need to travel to Ecuador and Uruguay, we have new national directors there. But right now, I am traveling with Hector, my right-hand man for Latin America, for a week and a half to El Salvador and Guatemala. There is a full schedule up ahead. This is my first trip to the countries we are serving since the pandemic started. That's me having a meal out in the sticks in El Salvador. As soon as we sat down to eat, a car full of police screeched to a halt right in front of us, pounced on a crook that was meandering around us, and took him away. They might have been angels in disguise (though I doubt it, I've never heard of a cussing angel).

### In the woods: Monday, July 12th

Our team in El Salvador wanted us to stay in a country home deep in tropical woods. There're all kinds of incredible birds here: Crowned Mot-Mots, with emerald coats and magnificent hanging tails, Bar-winged Orioles festooned in bright yellow and black, deep-green Pacific parakeets chattering incessantly. Each of them is singing high praises to the Lord. It doesn't get any better. We made the hour-long trip to the capital for all the meetings the team had scheduled, well worth it. The INSTE program was losing steam, with this visit I believe things will pick up. This proves once again that it is indispensable that I visit our national directors on a regular basis.



*continue on back >*

### Strategic planning 101: Tuesday, July 13th

We have arrived in Antigua, Guatemala, one of the most beautiful cities that I have ever been to. Hector, the Assistant Director for Latin America, a high-level businessman, is a gifted strategic planner. I've asked him to record a teaching series on this subject so our INSTE teams can perfect this essential skill. We will also use the teaching to promote INSTE and to enrich the churches we are serving. A second team will process this recording and prepare it with all kinds of digital wizardry. There's a picture for you of the recording, and below, some scenes of Antigua I shot at dawn. This will give you an idea of the extraordinary beauty of this city, with its cobblestone streets, Spanish colonial buildings, and a massive volcano set in the distance.



### All together once again, almost: Tuesday, July 13th



The biggest reason I made this trip was to meet with my Ibero-American team, here in Antigua. We tried to fly Hugo in, our supervisor for South America, who lives in Argentina, but that was impossible due to the pandemic. Then we planned for him to join us by zoom, and he caught a bad case of covid and didn't have the strength for that. Please pray for him, he's an exceptional leader. Did it ever feel good to be together with my team once again, and to plan, discuss, evaluate, and laugh together!

### Great expectations: Saturday, July 17th

This was the icing on the cake. We drove back to Honduras yesterday, to San Pedro up in the north, and today we gave the training seminar for 30 new group leaders. We're expecting at least 200 new students from that. It was an amazing end to an amazing trip.



### Please pray for us!

With wrapping things up in Honduras, the preparations to move to the US, hopefully with trips to Spain and Portugal, the preparations for the CUMIBIN Summit 2022, a INSTE Honduran National Convention that will be our farewell, and the rest of all that the ministry entails, we have our work cut out for us for the next months. We covet your prayers!

In Jesus' love  
*Jay + Iwonne*

GLOBE INTERNATIONAL  
P.O. BOX 3040  
PENSACOLA, FL 32516-3040

