



Inside BIBLE BASICS

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THIRD QUARTER, 2004

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Tick-Tock ... Tick-Tock

Say not ye, There are yet four months, and then cometh harvest? behold, I say unto you, Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest. (John 4:35)

In the center square of the ancient town of Comayagua, Honduras, stands a cathedral reputed to be one of the oldest in the western hemisphere. On the tower of the cathedral is a clock which the locals believe to be the oldest clock in the Americas. All these years it has been marking the advance of time, and with each **tick-tock** of the clock the fields have been awaiting more harvesters.

Tick – Two small Baptist Churches in Comayagua saw white harvest fields all around them. When the opportunity came to participate with eight sister churches in a **BBI STAR Team** teaching and evangelistic effort, they entered into it with eagerness. The first day, as the clock ticked on toward eternity, Marilyn Dunn led three women to the Lord in homes she visited with members of the church.



Tock – Marilyn's translator was a 14 year-old girl named Dixie who spoke excellent English. A casual remark caused Marilyn to question whether her young translator had ever trusted Christ personally. On the path leading away from the home they had just visited, Marilyn asked Dixie if she had ever received Jesus Christ as her own personal Lord and Savior. Even though she had been raised in a Christian home, she never had. Right there on the path, she bowed her head and prayed to receive Jesus for herself. Doubtless God rejoiced that day during those moments as the clock continued to tick off the seconds toward an impending eternity.

Tick – The Enemy put up huge obstacles to keep people from making a timely decision. The wife of the pastor who spearheaded the crusade from the local church side was involved in a serious accident just a few days before the crusade was to begin. The automobile she was driving carried a young bride

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Fields white already to harvest

from the States who had recently married a Honduran man. As a result of the automobile

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accident his bride was killed. Try as he may, Satan could not stop the advance of the Gospel of Jesus Christ because the gates of hell will not prevail against the Church! While the clock has stopped ticking for the bride, it was already too late for Satan to gain the victory in her life because she had made her peace with God before the accident. Such profound opposition made the **STAR Team** realize how precious time is – how important it is to reach people for whom the clock is still ticking – **before** their appointment with eternity.

Tick-Tock – Dr. Sharon Edwards, a professor of nursing at the University of



Sharon
Edwards
and
Patricia
Guevara
Speak to
Students

South Florida, was part of the outreach in central Honduras. Both she and her father, Dr. Larry Edwards, were invited into public schools to give important teaching on AIDS to the students. They were permitted to use

the teaching as a launching pad for their own personal testimonies and were permitted to give an invitation to the students to trust Jesus Christ. Patricia Guevara, a Honduran whose parents worked with BBI's *Radio HRGS*, was Sharon's translator. Patricia is an excellent translator because her mother tongue is Spanish and she has studied in English. She likewise has a good grasp of the Scriptures as a graduate of Piedmont Baptist College in Winston-Salem, NC. Rev. Samuel Montoya was translator for Larry Edwards, M.D. The AIDS presentation was given to about 1,500 students by these two teams. Decision cards



were filled out by 710 students. **Of those, 466 students indicated that they had trusted the Lord Jesus, and many vowed sexual abstinence until marriage.**

Tick – Associate Pastor Mike Daniele, also realizing that the harvest is ripe, took time from his busy schedule to join the **BBI STAR Team**. He went into public elementary schools in the daytime and preached in churches in the evening. **He estimates that 120 to 150 children trusted Christ.** The team he was with shared the



Gospel through skits and graphic illustrations. On one particular evening, twenty-seven people in a

small church responded to his invitation to get right with God. Pastor Daniele Preaches God's Word serves at Living Word Church, a Bible church in New Port Richey, Florida.

Pastor Daniele Preaches God's Word



Tick – Time had almost run out on an elderly lady who had been witnessed to for over 25 years, but had never trusted Jesus. Ann Edwards visited her home and told her what the Lord had done for her in her own life. Tears welled up in the woman's eyes as she



trusted Christ that day before it was too late. The church rejoiced because she was a relative of the pastor. Church members had witnessed to her and prayed for her for many years. It is clear that the Lord never wants us to give up on harvesting. *He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him* (Psalm 126:6). Thank God that the clock did not run out on this lady!

Tick – Ken Anderson's team visited a woman who had been attending church but



had stopped coming. She claimed to have accepted Christ nine years earlier. When asked about the reasons why she didn't attend, she said she did not want to put up with

the infighting among the ladies of the church. She went on to say: "I don't understand the Bible when I read it. I don't have any joy in being in church and singing the songs. I get no blessing out of being with other Christians." Ken told her she just might not be

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saved, since part of the ministry of the Holy Spirit is to help us understand God's Word. After she heard a clear presentation of the Gospel, she realized she had never trusted Jesus Christ as the only and sufficient Savior from her sins. Then she asked the Lord to come into her life and save her. That night she was at the church service. She was asked, "Do you have any joy in being here?" She responded, "Oh yes. It's wonderful." Nine years of thinking she was saved did not stop her from deciding for Christ *before* it was too late.

Tick – Jerry Petersen and Amy Richards visited a lady who was already saved, but had not been attending church. She did not attend because her family would not allow it. She was being starved spiritually by her "loved ones!" The team prayed with her that the Holy Spirit would use her testimony to soften the hearts of her family toward God.



The next day they visited a lady who gladly heard the Good News, but when asked if she wanted to accept Christ as her Savior, she said, "Yes, but not now." They discovered that she was afraid of what her husband would do to her if she trusted Christ instead of Catholicism. In spite of her fears, she was in church that night as Jerry gave a message on justification by grace. These two events illustrated in a profound way the fear and bondage under which much of the world labors while their time ticks away.

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Dear friends,

BBI STAR Teams is just one of the ministries of Bible Basics. Each "Inside Bible Basics" features a different part of our missionary outreach. I am deeply grateful to all of you who make this work possible through your prayerful support.

Tick-Tock – The theme of this report has been about how time slips away before we know it. Most of you know about our need to expand BBI's facilities and the \$150,000 matching gift that has been offered. Time is running out on this opportunity.

So far we have received approximately \$45,000 toward our side of the fund. **The donors matching your gifts have made it clear that they will not give more than is donated by others.** We need to meet a year-end deadline to complete the building fund so that the missionary outreach through BBI can continue growing.

If everyone of you would contribute an extra \$39.00 to the fund, we could complete our side of it. Obviously not everyone will, so if you will give more it would be of immense help. Remember, every dollar you give is matched dollar for dollar by the matching fund donors.

Thank you for all that you are already doing to make this ministry possible. May the Lord continue His rich blessing upon you.

In His Service,

Eugene Arvidy



STAR Sowing Teaching And Reaping

Marilyn Dunn and Dixie

If you would like to join a future STAR Team, contact us at the address on the front.

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Tick – Did you notice that the clock runs for people of all ages? The young bride who died in the prime of life – the 14 year-old translator – the elementary school children – the elderly lady whose time was close to its earthly end – all had one thing in common. They all needed to receive the Lord Jesus as their personal Savior.

Tock – That brings us to another question. Have you ever trusted in the Lord Jesus for yourself? Jesus told us that we do not know what a day may bring forth. As James 4:14 says so eloquently, "you do not know what will happen tomorrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapor that appears for a little time and then vanishes away." Do not let your time run out on you.

Jesus died on the Cross for your sins, was buried, and rose again the third day. If you have never trusted Him, do it now! Don't let the clock strike midnight on your life before you have made that all important decision to trust Jesus Christ as your personal Savior!

