

FAMILY

On May 14, Olivia will graduate from Kindergarten. Time has flown! Alyssa and Sabrina will be finished with their schoolwork for the year about the same time. The girls are looking forward to a break from school and a summer of VBS, swimming lessons and playing with friends. Jennifer is looking forward to a break from her "teacher" responsibilities and a chance to get caught up with other things. Alyssa and Sabrina have enjoyed playing softball this spring. They had fun learning to play the game and making new friends.

MINISTRY

You may have some unanswered questions after reading our last newsletter sharing with you a ministry transition for us within CAM. I have enjoyed speaking in person with two supporting churches and on the phone with another one. We hope and pray that this letter will help to clarify some of the questions that you may have. However, please call or email us if you still have questions after reading this update.

The **first question** that may still be lingering with some is **"Why would CAM pursue alternate sources of income when it is a faith-based mission?"** The answer lies in understanding how faith missions are supported. Each missionary with CAM has a group of donors and churches that donate to CAM for their ministry. A moderate administrative fee of 13% is charged on all gifts to CAM International which generates 75% of the annual operating budget for the headquarters of CAM.

In the last few years, a trend has developed of decreased giving to missions by believers and churches across the United States. That trend has been magnified by the current recession so much so that CAM missionaries are lacking the financial resources they need for their own salaries and ministries. The subsequent repercussion is that CAM International cannot generate the necessary operating income from the administrative fee to support the services for the missionaries. This leaves us asking the question "What does God want us to do if the American Church fails to financially support the Great Commission?"

If it were possible to influence the churches across America, I would ask them to please, please reconsider building their "paneled houses" (Haggai) and begin to "sell what they have to buy the field with the hidden treasure" (Matthew 13:44). No one can take this world's treasures with them when they die, but they can send it on ahead ([The Treasure Principle](#) by Randy Alcorn) by investing their money into the ministry of the church and thus into the Great Commission.

My heart longs for the American Church to financially support the Great Commission in the way that God intended by Grace Giving (2 Corinthians 8:1-7). If this were to happen all across America, then the addition of earned income for CAM would not

be necessary. Pray that somehow believers all across this great land will allow God to change their treasure location so that their hearts will be changed (Matthew 6:21).

This leads me to the **second question** that may be a bit fuzzy to you, **"To what type of ministry is Brian transitioning?"** While the entire scope of our future ministry is continuing to develop, the immediate pathway is very clear and exciting. CAM International started a Christian Spanish Bookstore, Centro de Publicaciones Cristianas (CPC), in 1999 primarily as an Internet bookstore. However, after about a year of research, we believe that CAM needs to expand this "business/ministry" to include a physical bookstore in the Dallas / Fort Worth area to minister to the 1.4 million Hispanics in this area. While meeting the Christian book needs of the DFW area, this will also generate needed income for the operating needs of CAM.

April 1, 2009, was the "official" transition date for most of my previous responsibilities to be shifted to other staff members at CAM Center. I'm now focusing intensely on the website, physical bookstore, sales, and marketing plans for the bookstore. We are in the midst of changing the name from CPC to Tienda Obrerofiel as we partner with our free Spanish material and resource website called Obrerofiel.com, which ministers to over 20,000 visitors a month from over 50 different countries, and sends out over 60,000 topical emails to those that request them.

We are blessed with a wonderful bookstore staff. Dr. Delwin Bardales, a local Hispanic pastor, helps us part-time with marketing and sales. Danilo Bardales works full-time shipping and receiving orders. Zaira Santos works from Mexico full-time taking orders over the phone and Internet. Eric Weaver, a CAM Appointee, has just moved to Dallas to help me for one year before he and his family moves to Guatemala. His background of running college bookstores will be extremely helpful to us.

The **third question** that some may have is, **"How long will you be doing the bookstore thing and would you change to something different?"** Well, the bookstore will be my primary ministry this year, although I will also be researching additional business ventures for CAM to consider. One might say that my role is very similar to a "fund-raising" position. However, instead of raising funds from donors, the goal is to raise funds through CAM-owned businesses. While we may investigate and consider such things as a translation company, a restaurant franchise, a programming company or even owning apartment complexes, I won't be the guy running those businesses, but rather researching and finding people to manage them. I don't know what the future holds, but my passion and goal has always been to serve the headquarters of CAM in whatever is needed most. For now, they need me to help find ways to create earned income for CAM through CAM-owned businesses that God would bless to provide for the funding of the Great Commission.





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We need your prayers for the American Church to awaken to Grace Giving, for the ministry of the bookstore in the DFW area, for wisdom in researching and selecting potential business ventures to help fund missions and for our reliance on God to remain steadfast. Thank you for your role in supporting missions through prayer, through giving to missions and through giving to your local church. Please contact us if you would like us to come and speak to your church, Sunday school class, small group, or missions conference about missions.

PARTNERS

We are asking God to raise up 30 prayer partners who will pray for us one day each week. We are also asking God to raise our support level from 69% to 90% by the end of the year - a \$998.13 increase in monthly giving.

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