

THEME: BELIZE STORY – Part 4

SONGS PRAISE THE LORD 4:05

I'VE NEVER BEEN OUT OF HIS CARE 3:18

BELIZE MUSIC

Welcome to Grace Notes. It's been said that it is God ~~alone is the only~~ One who ~~can work~~ good out of bad situations. Those of us who ~~choose to~~ believe this, find it to be true. Also true, is that when we ~~serve~~ decide to follow Christ ~~and serve Him~~, we WILL encounter adversity, because we live in a world that caters to sin and rejects holy living. Even Jesus, ~~while he was~~ ministering on earth, was constantly under attack. But with all the disruptions, He still accomplished His task to provide eternal salvation for all who believe – and that's not only good – that's GREAT. God will provide what we need to be ambassadors for Christ. On our broadcast today, our host, Barbara Sandbek, will show us how God worked good out of some tough ~~situations~~ situations that arose when she and her husband, Dale, first arrived in southern Belize, where they ~~were~~ planned to build the first Christian radio station. But first, let's listen to a song that gives good advice for handling any struggle we come up against.

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*** PRAISE THE LORD ***

Yes, that i's good advice. Put on the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness. A lady I know said ~~she played that song for~~ her six year old son ~~and he~~ memorized all the words to that song. His favorite line was... "Now Satan...he's a liar!". That's so true. He's not only a liar - In fact he's the father of lies. I figured if this little boy can remember this truth throughout his life, he'll never succumb to satan's attacks.

1 Peter 5:8 says that the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour, but verse 9 says that we can resist him by standing firm in the faith.

In the story of Nehemiah, we find that Nehemiah met with adversity almost immediately after he made his plans known. Two governors of the surrounding regions were very much disturbed that someone had come to promote the welfare of the Israelites and they spent a great deal of time trying to thwart his efforts. But this didn't stop him from

plowing forward – he had a job to do and he knew God was with him.

I love how 1 Corinthians 1:25 puts it...

The foolishness of God is wiser than man's wisdom and the
- weakness of God is stronger than man's strength.

Adversity takes many forms. *We choose whether we will become discouraged or not.* Even before we left some situations arose, one of a serious nature, that could have caused us to back out, but we kept focused on our calling and prayed. *The more we trusted God, the more assured we were that He wanted us to do this project.*

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We arrived in Belize and were immediately elated when the customs agent had us open every suitcase but the one that contained a year's worth of all the vitamins we had bought to keep us well. We hadn't intended to sell them, but they could have charged us a great deal of money in duty fees because we had no proof.

Our missionary friends were to meet us at the airport and we were going to drive around the city that day and the next to find a car. We stood on the sidewalk for about an hour and a half and finally realized they weren't coming. It was good that we'd been there before, otherwise, itwe might have been frightening. ay have been fearful. The taxis were coming sparsely so we realized we needed to hail one down quickly to get to the hotel. We started walking toward the one that came, but, Then another taxi pulled up behind him and they started arguing. Finally, the second driver told us to come with him and the first man gave him no fight. After we were inside, the driver told us that the first man was not a licensed taxi and that if he came near a checkpoint along the ~~road~~ (road (and there were many) he would dump us off, baggage and all, on the side of the road. I asked him what his name was and he said, 'Emmanuel', which, That means 'God with us'. I thought, "Man this is gonna be good!"

We settled in at the hotel and called our friends. They had thought they were to be there the next day. What a way to start – up then down.

But, once again, *we chose to see what was allowed, as from God.*

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The next day our friends came ~~up~~ and we began the search for the 4 x 4 diesel car we thought we needed. Most of the cars had something major wrong with them or were too expensive. We had our prayer warriors praying specifically for this day because it was imperative that we get a car in the city. There were none where we were planning to live. Our friend's car's alternator went up, and in the middle of everything we had to find parts. Nothing is simple in Belize. We had to spend an additional night in the motel but the next day we found our car – a 1989 Fifth Avenue we named Bessie. It wasn't even on the car lot because the dealer figured no one wanted it - it was an 8 cylinder and gas was over \$4.00 a gallon. The great thing about the car was that everything worked – even the power windows. The dealer's helpers ~~often~~ used it to take on dates ~~so – they all loved it and they~~ kept it in shape. With the price being much lower than we'd planned, we figured we could afford the gas. The extra day spent there allowed us to get a wire transfer along with the insurance and the tags. We wouldn't need to make the expensive and time-consuming trip back. Now, isn't God ~~is~~ the perfect orchestrator.

We ~~had~~ started our journey by seeing the Lord's hand and ~~realizing~~ ~~how – that~~ He had already planned for this up-and-down day so we could *learn to count on His faithfulness and appreciate His blessings.* This was just the beginning of ~~things~~ ~~more~~ to come.

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There would have been reasons ~~for to be concerned and reasons to and~~ fear, if we didn't have God to guide us. *So I say to you...*

So I say to you...

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***!If the light of your life seems to flicker and falter
Especially when difficult times appear
If the weight of your load's like the Rock of ~~Gibraltar~~ Gibraltar
And you cannot have joy for you only have fear
Then turn your cares over to God, your ~~C~~reator
He made you, He knows you. He'll carry your load.
Trust Him and see how He makes all things happen
For good as your travel down life's windy road.***

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** I'VE NEVER BEEN **OUTOUT** of HIS CARE ***

I've Never Been Out Of His Care

Verse 1

The eyes of God are upon me
He sees everything I do
The arms of God are around me
He keeps me safe and secure

Chorus

And He knows where I am
Every hour of everyday
He knows each thought I think
He knows each word that I might say
And although there've been times
I stepped out of His will
I've never been out of His care.

Verse 2

This changing world alarms me
With war, with sin, with strife
But my loving Father charms me
With joy, with peace and with life

(Repeat chorus)

Tag: I've never been out of His care

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or visit us at our web site www.gracenotesradio.com.

Join us on our next program. Until then, let your grace notes be a song of praise!

~~Arrived in Independence— NEEDED HELP— Germain— parrot~~

~~Neh. response 2:20 was ours as well...~~

~~———— THE GOD OF HEAVEN WILL GIVE US SUCCESS! — He did!~~

~~Nehemiah solicited many people to work hand in hand to do the job.~~

~~We expected to be inactive for a while— met Bob in 3 days— license~~

~~HUMBLING to see that God was going to use US in the PIE HE had already begun to build—~~

~~—MANY people had already been UNIFIED in objective to pray, labor
———— and donate.~~

~~—TOWER of BABEL— “If as one people speaking same language they
———— have begun to do this, then nothing they plan to do will be
———— impossible for them.~~

~~It would be GOD’S STATION— no one person could say they owned it~~

~~Already in place: license, tower, transmitter, antenna, some equipment
Money we brought not needed for these — but for building.~~

~~Neh. encountered more adversity after he made his plan known.
———— He had the people pray and posted a guard.~~

~~We needed LAND to build the station.~~

~~Dale shared vision w/MANY ministries— agreed it was good
———— but didn’t want the responsibility.~~

~~Discouraging— but we decided to FOCUS what GOD HAD DONE
———— & Praise Him for what he was going to do.~~

~~IT WAS GOD’S PROJECT— We KNEW He had a place.~~

~~8-1~~

~~***** When you’re up against a struggle
*** PRAISE THE LORD *** Now satan, he’s a liar., think PULPERS
***** lift up SWORD Battle..Jesus RISEN~~

NEED TO TRUST GOD TO HANDLE ADVERSITY

4:4,5

Situation: After being taunted and ridiculed by Tobiah and Sanballat

Summary: They're mocking you, God. You decided what to do with them.

Accomplished: Expressed anger to God but Nehemiah didn't take matters into his own hands.

Application: We are prone to take matters into our own hands and not tell God how we feel.

ARM OURSELVES WITH SPIRITUAL WEAPONS

4:9

Situation: After treats of attack by enemies

Summary: We are in your hands, God. We'll keep our weapons handy in case you want us to use them. Eph-6

Accomplished: Showed trust in God even while taking necessary precautions.

Application: Trusting God does not mean we do nothing. Action does not mean we do not trust.

6:9

Situation: Responding to threats

Summary: Oh Lord, please strengthen me!

Accomp: Showed Nehemiah's reliance on God for emotional and mental stability

Application: How often do we ask God for help when under pressure?

13:29

Situation: Reflecting on the actions of his enemies

Summary: Asked God to deal with the enemies and their evil plans

Accomp: Took away the compulsion to get revenge and entrusted justice to God

Appl: When did we last settle a desire for revenge by turning the matter over to God?

5:19 13:14, 21, 31

Situation: Reflecting on his own efforts to serve God.

Summary: Remember me, Oh God

Accomp: Kept clear in Nehemiah's mind his own motives for action

Application: How many of our actions will be done with the purpose of pleasing God?

We asked PRAYER PARTNERS PRAY for property owned
by someone who shared the vision.

River of Life agreed—**high elevation**—**small, unfinished building**
—**Rev. Ernie**—**burdened for radio station for 10 years**

Isaiah 43:18 says...

...I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up, do you not see it?

—I am making a way in the desert; and streams in the wasteland.

The amazing thing about this verse, is this...

—It is indeed a new thing as there is no Christian radio in southern Belize.

—The ministry we worked with is called 'River of Life'.

—The building site is in the town called 'Dump'.

God knew we needed helpers to build—channeled 2 teams OUR WAY

Neh. 4:6 the people worked with all their heart—so did our teams!!!

—Loved about West Oaks (talked about Lord while they worked)

Tower base dug (2 Belizean boys) 9' deep 7' square—75 bags cement

—Wrote PROVERBS 18:10 The Name of the Lord is a strong tower.

Volunteers unheard of in Belize (people need \$)

Raphael asked—3 teens showed up followed by one kid's father.

As we were thanking Lord for them, Matt. 9:38 came to mind...

—Ask the Lord of the harvest to send out workers into His harvest field.

All who take part will reap harvest.

Named the station—**HARVEST RADIO**—food for life.

—The meaning of the word 'broadcasting' is sowing seed.

March 31th (< month) tower was raised (85') by the Lord & 15 men.

SANG 'Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Next day, while pouring cement for roof,

—Dale & Rev Allan set up equipment/test broadcast for 2 hours!

Adversity—takes many forms—chose whether you're discouraged

—Donated equipment not working

—shortage of workers, shortage of qualified workers (doors)

—shortage of gas, concrete & things you wish you had HOME DEPOT

—increase in prices (steel 75%) gas (\$4.06)

—Dale sick—said he should see a specialist

—problems at home (not willing to leave house/family not worthy)

—someone wanted to buy our house

PRAYER made the difference—we **KEPT OUR FOCUS**

Neh. 4:14 Neh. said...Don't be afraid of them (or fall prey to your adversaries):

Remember the Lord, who is great & awesome & fight for your brothers, your sons & your daughters, your wives & your homes.

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We needed to persevere for Belizeans to be able to hear the WOG.

Neh. worked quickly & diligently—long hours from dawn to dusk
Completed wall in 52 days—people feared Lord—knew it was Him
We did too, completed in 3 months—unheard of in Belize—over yr.
On June 8th we began official broadcasting!

LOVE TO LOOK IN RETROSPECT...

- God worked timing out perfectly,
- We arrived 1 yr. from when license granted—almost taken away
- Frequencies stopped being approved
- Hurricane had sawed off trees near River of Life so hear in PG
- We stayed in a furnished house of missionaries on furlough
- Gayle/Dona at Cuxlin who rented furnished house in Toledo(save \$)
- River of Life was in process of buying land when we met them
- Building completed before the rainy season (would have delayed)
- God sent the 2 teams just when we needed them
- Gave us perfect weather—rained when needed didn't when not

We sought/prayed for program manager w/same qualifications Neh.
—“Man of integrity and fears God more than most men do”
Wallace filled position (called 4 yrs. Ago) perfect for job.

In Neh. story people returned to Lord after Ezra read the Word of God.
Faith comes by hearing and hearing by the Word of GOD!
Heb. 4:12 God's word is POWERFUL—sharper than any 2 edged sword
— even to the dividing of soul/spirit, joints/marrow.

If it can change a deadly criminal's life it can change anybodies.

The purpose of 'HARVEST RADIO' is to sow the seed of the glorious life changing message of Jesus Christ into the hearts of the people of southern Belize and surrounding areas/countries, with the intent of reaping a harvest of souls that will impact generations to come. Using the medium of radio broadcasting and programming that is a mix of Christian music and Biblical teaching/preaching, this ministry outreach will bring hope to the people, by evangelizing the unsaved and equipping Believers.

We believe God will move greatly in Belize through WORD/PRAYER
—pray for revival in that land & in the US.

8-9

***** Where 2 or more are gathered
** REVIVAL ** Like a fire out of control

~~Returned home when realized we had worked ourselves out of a job—
We needed to raise support for the station.~~

~~We feel like title to book ‘Forever ruined for the ordinary’~~

~~Phil 2:13 It is God who works in you both to will and to do of His good pleasure. If it’s
GOOD for Him—it’s GOOD FOR you.~~

~~Tough to be in WAIT STATE—itching to experience Him that way again.
—Felt most fulfilled ever was in life.~~

~~GOD does the DOING—All He asks of us is to remain FAITHFUL.~~

~~We can trust what God’s done before in/thru us He’ll do again in His time.~~

~~15-12~~

~~***** You may be DOWN...FACED...RIGHT now
HE’LL DO IT AGAIN God KNOWS things...HURTING..YOU SEE
***** God of STARS/SUN/SEAS—Father...CALM storm
————— FIND WAY~~

~~16-4~~

~~*****
** NO GREATER LOVE **
*****~~

~~Before I knew your Name—You knew my every breath
Before I found my way—You knew my every step
Before I knew everything that I need—You gave it all to me~~

~~Chorus~~

~~No greater love than this—that You should lay down your life
For someone such as this—
I’d spend a lifetime wondering why
The beauty of Heaven is here in my heart
And I know there can be—no greater love—than this~~

~~I never understood—how merciful love could be
Until I felt his flame—light every part of me
And I would give everything that I am
‘Cause I have been saved—yes I have been saved~~

~~<Chorus>~~

~~<6 beat interlude> OH LOVE OH LOVE OOO
The beauty of heaven is here in my heart
And I know there can be no greater love
For someone such as me
No greater love than this~~

How do we say 'thank you' to so GREAT A LOVE?

~~2 Cor. 5:14-15 Paul writes... Christ's love compels us because we are convinced that one died for all and therefore all died. And he died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for Him who died for them and was raised again.~~

~~Saw your CROWN of thorns how You gladly wore it
EVERY Cross I bear I'm stronger for it
Lord when the way is hard You show me how
TO follow your footsteps & cast away all doubt
Saw Your TEMPTATION how you STOOD before it
& I'm tempted too, but I'm stronger for it
Let me shine the light of Bethlehem
Let me be the trumpet calling out Your name
Let me be the burning bush in the desert Sand
Show me Your glory hide me from my shame~~

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