

## Hars Newsletters from Belize - January 2020

Hi sisters and brothers,

Hope everyone is having a dynamic start to the year 2020. We know 2019 was tough for many people around the world, and we look forward to starting afresh in this decade.

We have turned a new page in our lives and ministry in Belize. As we look back into these last few months, we experienced God's love and guidance.



Every morning we see the sun rise on the horizon, a view that many people have to travel long distances for but that we and our community get to enjoy right from our homes. We are very thankful that God shares His creation with us so generously.

We rent a place at the business district next to grocery stores and restaurants as “the gospel community center “. We ask God to bless the place and our neighbors. We have started a Small Group. We also ask God to open doors for English Bible study group and tutoring class for the teens at the Center, and vocational training for the dropouts.



### Soccer & Teens

We have had a couple encounters that are getting us excited about possibilities for youth ministry and Soccer ministry.

- One of the incidents took place on a Sunday last December at a local church. Gregory was sitting in the back, near a few squirmy teenage boys. He wondered why they were there. When service ended, he struck up conversation with them. They told him plainly: “We come to seek Jesus.” Their words deeply moved Gregory. The conversation eventually ended on soccer, and Gregory walked away full of ideas for a possible soccer ministry.

- Soon afterwards, Gregory was taking his car to have a car wash and started chatting with a man waiting in line next to him. Turned out he was a health officer for the city government, and he had been wanting to start a soccer team for teenage boys, especially school dropouts, as a way to encourage them to stay in school. **Gregory started dreaming big.** What if we start not only a team but also a tournament for all the schools in the area?
- We also met two friends who are teaching in local school, and doing soccer ministries in their churches. They are former staff of Belize Camping Experience and now stay close to where we are. They are excited about the idea of tournament and will assist.



- One day, a local guy came fixing WiFi and talked about soccer with Gregory. Amazingly he told us he has a soccer team and was interested to help Gregory to make a team for the teens. **SOCCER!**



The staff of Belize Camping Experience treated us a warm welcome dinner when we returned to Belize. We thank God for the friendship and fellowship at the dining table. More, we have been encouraged and impressed by BCE's passion and vision on spreading the gospel. Maggie enjoys hanging out with the staff and will make plan to stay over the campus whenever she is in town.

#### **Prayer requests:**

1. "Gospel community center" registration process.
2. Wisdom and strength to start the ministry (soccer ministry, vocational training, English tutoring, Bible study group etc.)
3. New coworkers and helpers to join us

"The LORD that made heaven and earth bless thee out of Zion." Psalm 134:3

Maggie and Gregory