

# EXTREME BELIZE

## Urgent Update:

The current threat level is RED. We need your help to get to Belize before more souls slip into eternity lost.



## JOHN AND MEL BJORGEN IN BELIZE

**Our five week trip to Belize proved to be very fruitful. We were able to experience “Mission Base living”, build relationships with villagers that we feel will last for many years, and even go through some Belizean aches and pains.**

From August 6th to September 11th we had the privilege of serving in Belize for five weeks while Vera and Basil were in the states. We have both been to Belize before, but not by ourselves. When Vera and Basil left Belize, we were overwhelmed at the responsibility of taking over the mission base for a month. The Lord was with us with each step we took and soon the fears melted away and we concentrated on the tasks before us.

One of John’s main goals in working on the mission base was to connect with the grounds keeper, Popsie. Building trust in the Belizean community is very key because they generally don’t trust people. John was able to build a firm foundation for trust and friendship with Popsie. Truly the Lord had his hand in forming this unique friendship.

Through Bible study, Mel was able to connect with some of the ladies on a deeper level. Several ladies sought her counsel on what to do with their current relationships. They have so many strongholds in their lives that they must let go to fully live in the richness and grace of Christ’s love. Please pray that they will let go of the sin that so easily entangles them.

Together, we were able to visit with many families in the village. We told them that we loved them and wanted to live our lives among them

and see the village live for Christ. After several days of going from house to house, villagers would come up to us and say, “I’m waiting for you to come to my house, when are you coming?” These comments made us realize that they were watching us. We pray that we will be living examples of Christ’s love to them.

Mel was in her second trimester of pregnancy while in Belize. Although she was very hot and sometimes uncomfortable, she remained healthy and so did the baby (even after numerous four wheeling trips). John on the other hand took all the aches and pains. He was stung by a large scorpion, thrown off a moving vehicle and suffered a nasty road rash, and the day before leaving Belize, he was in a minor car accident. We can praise the Lord that his injuries were not severe but we might have to take out an extra health insurance policy on him!

Most importantly, we learned that we must be a team with God as our coach. We learned how important it is to work together and be each others support and encouragement. We learned that it is not us but God working in and through us, and to that we say, “Lead us Lord we will follow.”



John at Snoqualmie Falls in WA



Bible study in Belize



Mel at 26 weeks

**Support Level update:**

We think we're somewhere just over 40 percent. Due to recent commitments that we don't know the exact amount yet, we're guessing. We'll update our blog as soon as we know.

## IMPORTANT UPDATES:

### Vera and Basil de Klerk:

Basil is back in the states fighting a severe infection. He will be in the states for one month. Vera will have to come back to Belize to lead teams. Please pray for them as they go through this difficult time.

### Our travel plans:

#### October 21st -November 1st:

Since Basil is unable to go to Belize John will be traveling with the next mission team (which happens to be our home church, Cornerstone Christian Fellowship.) He will help Vera lead that team in building a house, food distribution, and other ministry related activities.

#### November 5th-10th:

Missionary training at the Converge Worldwide headquarters in Chicago, IL.

### The Baby:

Mel is now in her third trimester of pregnancy. Both Mommy and baby are very healthy, just a little tired of traveling. They are anxious to meet each other. Mel is due January 7th.

### Washington State:

In July we were able to visit ten churches in the Sea-Tac area. What a blessing they were to our hearts! To us, the best part about being a missionary is fellowshipping with different church bodies. So far, one church from that area has committed to supporting us. We are praying that several more will join us by the new year.

## IMPORTANT NOTE:

*It is becoming increasingly urgent for us to get to Belize as soon as possible. Basil and Vera desperately need our help. As health problems continue to arise and the base needs more care, a constant presence is required to maintain the ministry.*

*We have been praying that God will send us down in his perfect timing. We need your help to get there.*

*Will you please pray about becoming a ministry partner? Will you join us as we minister to people in Belize? We know that with the current situation of the economy, not*

*everyone can give. Will you commit to praying for us fervently as we prepare to go?*

*Enclosed in this newsletter is a prayer card with options to pray, give, or both. Simply fill out the form and pop it in the mailbox (no postage necessary). Our mission board will send you a letter giving you instructions about what to do next.*

*Thank you so much for your prayers as we continue through this Ministry Partner Development. We love you all!*

*Because He lives,*

*John and Mel Bjorgen*