

# NEWS FROM THE ROCK

## THE WOODWARDS IN THE SAN JUANS

*InFocus Family Ministries*

*Rejoicing in the Savior's Love for us....Happy Easter!*

*March 2010*

### Restored to live in Grace...

So, here goes another prayer letter. As I (Mo) sit down to write, something I love to do, I realize how little time I actually spend doing this. I have always loved to write...I used to stay up late at night in high school and college, journaling to candle light, melting the top of my pen over the flame, creating a new shape until my room filled with the strong scent of burnt plastic.

Writing has always been a way for me to express my thoughts, communicate with people, help me process emotions and bring clarity to various life situations. Writing is one of my passions. Yet, so rarely do I carve time out of any of my days to pursue it. I love to read as well, so I guess that has taken precedence. As one gifted with dyslexia, I often see my thoughts in pictures...or better understand concepts when described visually. I seem to glean most in learning if it is in a "hands-on-kind-of-way". Since I think and process out-loud, I also write lots of run-on sentences too :-). When Vic or I sit down to write our monthly letters, we hope to best communicate with you "what we are doing" with InFocus Ministries, whether that is marriage conferences, mentoring couples, men, women, children or just what's going on with our family. ***continued on the back page...***

**RESTORED & Remarried**<sup>™</sup>  
ENCOURAGEMENT FOR REMARRIED COUPLES IN A STEPFAMILY

We are looking forward to hosting Gil and Brenda Stuart in a couple of weeks. They are the authors of, ***Restored and Remarried***, and will be leading a 1 1/2 day conference here in Friday Harbor @ the Earthbox Motel. April 16th and 17th, 7-9:00 p.m. on Friday and 9-3:30 p.m. on Saturday. Whether you or someone you know, considers themselves a step-family or a blended family, ***Restored and Remarried*** is a hands on resource for you. This seminar is fun and interactive and most definitely "guy friendly". The cost is \$60 per couple/\$30 per single and includes lunch on Saturday.

Help us spread the word...more info. at <http://woodwards.blogspot.com>

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Sometimes I think I/we struggle to paint the picture or connect the dots in a meaningful way. I wonder if this is because we question if what we are doing has meaning and/or purpose. Are we doing enough? Is what we do a valid use of time? etc,etc. If much of our meeting time with people is confidential, which it is, then how do we tell you, our supporters about it? I/we feel inadequate to do so and at times question the very purpose of writing these letters. Somehow I feel like it is not giving you enough 'information'. Taking the risk to be honest here and asking for your prayers in this area.

This summer, while in the Dominican Republic, Vic and I will celebrate our 18th anniversary. We continue to be incredibly grateful for the 'life' in our marriage and find great joy in our time together, as well as with our children, all growing in the messiness of God's grace, desiring to trust Him with "us" more freely.

Below is a picture of my friend Maria and I. Nosotros practicamos español y ingles. Nosotros tenemos divertido! (We practice spanish and english. We have fun!). I am moving on to my second year of Spanish and Vic has now joined me.



Maria and I have been getting to know each other over the past few months. As our vocabulary grows so does the depth of our communication. Maria is very giving and has a

## Across Cultures...

gentle spirit. I am so thankful she takes time out of her week on a regular basis to meet with me in her home. Recently she came over for lunch with her boys and we enjoyed cooking together and obviously, more language practice.

**BOOK REVIEW: Cross-Cultural Servanthood: Serving the World in Christlike Humility, by Duane Elmer.** This book was given to us by our dear friend Marilyn. Don't let the title fool you, meaning that you may think it would only be worth your time reading if you were going overseas. As I read it, I kept thinking to myself, "this applies to the different cultures within our own country, amongst different generations and people living in various parts of the U.S.A." Definitely worth the time to read. One particular chapter that struck me was on the subject of "communicating respect for others" and it began with this quote: "If we do not accept as good,

God's shaping of our person and life in our own culture, we will never be able to accept His



work in the lives of others who are culturally different from us."



Speaking of cross-cultural servanthood...

Pictures above are of daughter Erin teaching deaf children in Mexico. Ellie and I visited her a couple of weeks ago. What an amazing school...Rancho Sordo Mudo. Check them out on the web...[www.ranchosordomudo.org](http://www.ranchosordomudo.org)

*Blessings for a hope filled Easter to all of you!*