

# Jean Giles

## Thank You for Your Prayers

May 9, 2008

Dear Praying Friends,

Carla Stevens' Report follows:

Thanks for praying! We had a good meeting with Rafael Ku, General Manager of the Presbyterian schools in Belize yesterday. He gave us all the details regarding the government's problems with PTEC and we all concluded that PTEC as PTEC must be closed. He did, however, make it clear that the government has no problem with Managements (all our Presbyterian schools are considered as part of the Presbyterian Management) providing ongoing professional development for their teachers-- This means we will be able to offer workshops this summer! Please pray as I have to rush the objectives and course outlines through the Belize Quality Assurance and Development office for official "Continuing Education Units" to be granted to our teachers.

We also discussed creating a set of common "core" courses that all teachers in Presbyterian schools must take over a period of years. I am charged with developing a rough draft of this idea to present to the principals and education commission of Presbytery for input, approval, and eventually, prayerfully, implementation in all our schools. I am excited about this.

PTEC, because of it's cost and commitment only reached a portion of our teachers. This new program will provide a way to offer clear training for ALL our teachers now and in the future. Much prayer is needed. It seems that God closed one door in order to open a better door!

Please remember, in the midst of all this school talk, that my #1 prayer request is still for God to raise up and equip godly leaders for our CHURCHES!

In Christ,

***Carla***

P.S. For those who have asked for more details: This is a clear area where cultural differences came into play. For the U.S., an institution can operate, even if it is not recognized as a fully accredited, degree-granting institution -- it often takes many years for a school to develop it's program to the level of being fully accredited. It doesn't work that way here. You have to have a license in hand in order to start a school. Our license was denied, partly due to a perceived lack of actual "classroom time" (we followed an intensive, week long, modular format for our courses). At this time, in order to maintain a good name with the government for our schools and our churches, we have chosen not to contest this decision.

**Carla Stevens**

Mission to the World

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