

# Pescadores Progress



## The Kingdom of Heaven is Near

**By: Cindy Hallford- Leaders Couple, GMTD Secretariat**

As Jesus is walking alongside the Sea of Galilee he **began to announce, "Change your hearts and lives! Here comes the Kingdom of Heaven!"** Matthew 4:17

**Jesus traveled throughout the region of Galilee, teaching in the synagogues and announcing the Good News of the Kingdom.** Matthew 4:23

**One day as he saw the crowds gathering, Jesus went up on the mountainside and sat down. His disciples gathered around Him and he began to teach them.** Matthew 5:1-2

Matthew 5:3-11

**1 God blesses those who are poor and realize their need for him, for the Kingdom of Heaven is theirs.**

**4 God blesses those who mourn, for they will be comforted.**

**5 God blesses those who are humble, for they will inherit the whole earth.**

**6 God blesses those who hunger and thirst for justice, for they will be satisfied.**

**7 God blesses those who are merciful, for they will be shown mercy.**

**8 God blesses those whose hearts are pure, for they will see God.**

**9 God blesses those who work for peace, for they will be called the children of God.**

**10 God blesses those who are persecuted for doing right, for the Kingdom of Heaven is theirs.**

**11 God blesses you when people mock you and persecute you and lie about you and say all sorts of evil against you because you are my followers. 12 Be happy about it! Be very glad! For a great reward awaits you in heaven. And remember, the ancient prophets were persecuted in the same way.**

We know from scripture that the Kingdom of Heaven is in the third heaven where God the Father, with Jesus Christ at His right hand, rule and reign.

Scripture also tells us in **Luke 17:21 that the Kingdom of Heaven is within us.**

To help us think about the Kingdom of Heaven I want us to first think about traveling to a different country. This means meeting people who may think and act different from what we are accustomed to. They have different

customs and sometimes a different language. Several years ago I had the privilege to travel to Nicaragua on a couple of mission trips. On the first trip, once we exited the plane and entered the airport in Nicaragua I saw soldiers in full uniform carrying these huge, long assault rifles. I hoped they were there to protect the people and if so there must be a real threat. I knew then I was not in the United States.

While we were in Nicaragua our group stayed in a mission house and most of our meals were prepared at this house. At every meal they served plantains, rice and beans. Sometimes the plantains were fried, baked, battered and fried and maybe prepared other different ways, but they were always on the table. The rice and beans may have been served separately or together in the same dish, but again, always on the table and always spicy. For breakfast we had plantains, rice and beans; for lunch -- plantains, rice and beans; dinner -- plantains, rice and beans. There were other foods with each meal and it was always well prepared and we were served more than enough food, but we were always served these three staples. I like rice and beans, and we eat both often, but I believe it is fair to say that for most of us we do not have plantains, rice and beans three meals a day, seven days a week. However, during our time in Nicaragua, it was the norm.

Different countries are separated by physical boundaries. However, the Kingdom of Heaven has no physical boundaries. God brings His Kingdom to earth through mankind, through you and me. He made this possible through the birth, life, death, and resurrection of our Savior and Lord, Jesus Christ.

Those who belong to the Kingdom of Heaven are called by God to live differently from those who do not yet belong. **Romans 12:2 Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. We are not citizens of this world. But our citizenship is in heaven. Philippians 3:20**

God provides us with examples of how Kingdom people are to live throughout scripture. Jesus provides this in his Sermon on the Mount, our focus scripture for this meditation. He tells us:

We are a blessed people. We are blessed when we realize that we are spiritually poor and need Jesus. We mourn for our own sins, sufferings and pains as well as for those of others. We are a humble people. We hunger and thirst for righteousness and are filled. We are merciful toward others and so receive mercy. Our hearts are to be pure and we are to work for peace. We are a people who are persecuted for doing right and will be mocked, lied about, and evil things will be said against us simply because we are followers of Jesus Christ. Jesus

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**April 2017**

**GMTD #77 Men's:**

**May 18 - 21, 2017**

**Rector: Ronnie Crocker**

**Send-off:**

Thurs., May 18 • 6:30 p.m.

**Serenade:**

Sat., May 20 • 6:30 p.m.

Arrive at 5:30 p.m.

**Closing:**

Sun., May 21 • 5:00 p.m.

**GMTD #76 Women's:**

**May 25 - 28, 2017**

**Rector: Charli Hoialmen**

**Send-off:**

Thurs., May 25 • 6:30 p.m.

**Serenade:**

Sat., May 27 • 6:30 p.m.

Arrive at 5:30 p.m.

**Closing:**

Sun., May 29 • 5:00 p.m.

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then tells us to be happy about it! To be very glad for a great reward awaits us in heaven. He also says this has been going on since ancient times.

Just as Jesus called Peter, Andrew, James, and John to leave their old lives behind and follow Him, He has called each of us to leave the worldly way of thinking and living behind. To allow Him to change our hearts and lives! To stop doing things the old way, stop living the old way, because the Kingdom of Heaven is near! The Kingdom of Heaven is within each of us who have received Jesus Christ as our Savior and Lord.

You see, just as traveling to another country means learning different customs, people who belong to the Kingdom are called by God to be different from people of the World. We are to think and so act differently. The Kingdom of Heaven is realized on earth when God's will governs our actions. Jesus gave us a prime example in the Garden of Gethsemane when He prayed.

Our son-in-law has provided us with another example of a different way of thinking. He was born in Chile and lived there until he was nine years old. On a couple of different occasions he has prepared empanatas for our family. He

prepares them the way his family in Chile prepared them. He makes the dough himself and inside each one, along with other ingredients, he places a whole boiled egg. Randall and I had never eaten empanatas until Cris prepared them for us. The first time he served these he told us there was a whole egg inside. I thought he meant a whole, chopped egg, inside each one, but no. The whole boiled egg sits wrapped inside this beautiful, light pastry surrounded by meat, onions, seasonings and spices. This is one of his traditional family recipes for special occasions and it's considered a treat. We had not thought of empanatas on the table for family gatherings until Cris became a member of our family.

"I want your will to be done, not mine". As Kingdom people we live to love God and love others, because He first loved us, and to express this love through our actions. We are to trust in His everlasting love. In living this way we help to bring the Kingdom of Heaven to earth. **We are citizens of the Kingdom of Heaven.**

**DeColores**

**Cindy Hallford**

## GMTD #76 - MEN'S

FEBRUARY 2 - 5, 2017 - STEPHEN DACUS, RECTOR

***"All men are like grass, and all their glory is like the flowers of the field; the grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of the Lord stands forever." I Peter 1: 24, 25***

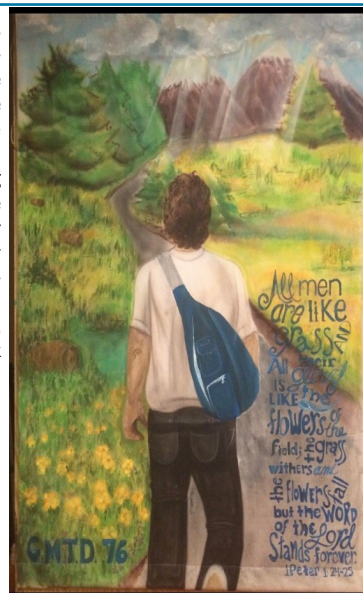
Oh my gosh! Where to begin!!!! God planted I Peter 1: 24-25 in my spirit. He gave me the thought; **what are we seeking in our lives, our glory or His glory?** Are we seeking those things that are temporal or those things that are eternal? Our weekend theme was "Glorify God". The team set out to do just that. God choose an All Star team to serve. Beginning with our first meeting to our final meeting, HE placed a great sense of love and unity on the team. There were men having to deal with health issues and job loss, but they held steadfast to the team! On the weekend, the team glorified God in every meal that was prepared, every prayer that was prayed, every talk given, every skit preformed, every hug given, and every act that was done. It was all to glorify God. Every team member was excited to be there and their enthusiasm was picked up the candidates. What a great example of sacrifice and love they showed! I believe many of the candidates came to seek God, to ask Him to meet their needs. During our table introductions you could already see how God was working to calm any nervousness and provide peace. When Saturday arrived, there was such a great outpouring of His Spirit. It was amazing to be a part of it. There were many men who came

forward to accept Christ as Savior, rededicated their lives to Jesus, and received Spiritual healing and many who received physical healing. I honestly believe God's presence was anointed over each candidate and team member. The entire weekend just went so smoothly, it was His grace upon us.

What a turnout by the ladies for the Serenade! The singing was incredible, angelic and was truly a blessing! All the Palanca that was provided by the community further showed the men, that God's love was being exemplified by the food and gifts. The prayers that were lifted up all weekend by the community, were felt in such a mighty way! For anyone who had anything to do with the weekend, Thank You! For the team, Thank You! For Beth, Thank you!

Most of all, Thank You Father, for your blessings and grace!

**Stephen Dacus**  
**Rector - GMTD #76**



### *The Men of GMTD #76 - Welcome!*

#### **Table of Luke**

James Copeland  
Jerry Fisher  
Tony Massengill  
William (Billy) Walker  
Scott Durham  
Jamie Poole

#### **Table of Peter**

Jake Cantrell  
Chris Englin  
Shannon Holbrooks  
Samuel Thompson  
John Ryan Crenshaw  
Derek Pollard

#### **Table of Mark**

David Brown  
Brad Dunn  
Joseph Hockaday III  
Troyce Simmons  
Justin Thompson  
Jonathan Merrell

#### **Table of Matthew**

Tony Boynton  
Matthew Cunningham  
Ethan (Blake) Noblitt  
David Childres  
Darrell Cox

#### **Table of John**

Larry (Tom) Fowler  
Scott Wykoff  
Richard Frazer  
Butch Foraker  
Jason Reeves

#### **Table of Paul**

Chad Crowe  
James (Jim) Fowler  
Mark Creekmore  
Marty Whitt  
Donatus Carrol  
Damond Roberts

# GMTD #76 - WOMEN'S

FEBRUARY 9 - 12, 2017 - MICKEY HILL, RECTOR

*But Ruth replied, "Don't ask me to leave you and turn back. Wherever you go, I will go; wherever you live, I will live. Your people will be my people, and your God will be my God. Ruth 1:16*



WOW!! What an awesome God we serve! Our scripture for the weekend was Ruth 1:16 and the theme was Where you go, I will go. To say we had an amazing weekend would not do it justice. The team proved they were willing to go where He goes and the 36 candidates followed suit. He showed up on this weekend and blew us all away, from the first time we walked thru the doors, until we left the camp on Sunday evening ~ His presence was felt.

Thank you to the men who blessed us Saturday night with the awesome serenade, the community for your love and prayers, and to the secretariat for allowing me to be a part in His Kingdom work!

Going where He asks me to go,  
Mickey Hill  
Rector - GMTD #76

## *The Women of GMTD #76- Welcome!*

**Table of Ruth**  
Crystal Cantrell  
Hannah Hennigan  
Denisha Noblitt  
Sarah Crowe  
Candice Fowler  
Cristina Simmons

**Table of Elizabeth**  
Lynndy Wynn  
Kerrie Jenkins  
Anita Chavez  
Kandra Cunningham  
Michelle York  
Lisa Brown

**Table of Rachel**  
Aondrea Thompson  
Dawn Walker  
Beth Clay-Maxie  
Jordan Tribble  
Jennifer Englin  
Kim Gunter

**Table of Sarah**  
Kathy Pass  
Becky Goss  
Cheryl Dunn  
Bridget Collier  
Cassandra Hockaday  
Jennifer Skipper

**Table of Rebekah**  
Lauren Smith  
Lorie Kukulka  
Theresa Blitz  
Annette Creekmore  
Ann Holbrooks  
Tammy Wright

**Table of Esther**  
Petra Whitt  
Angie Gibby  
Dixie Sosebee  
Holle Copeland  
Heather Exum  
Anastasia Welborn

## UPCOMING WEEKENDS

### **GMTD #77**

**Men:** May 18 - 21, 2017

**Women:** May 25 - 28, 2017

### **GMSW #10**

**Jul 27 - Jul 30, 2017**

### **GMTD #78**

**Men:** Sept 21 - 24, 2017

**Women:** Sept. 28 - Oct. 1, 2017

### **GMTD #79**

**Men:** Feb. 15 - 18, 2018

**Women:** Feb. 22 - 25, 2018



## Tres Dias Teams

**Interested in serving on a Tres Dias team?**



Go to [www.gmt.org](http://www.gmt.org) or come to the next Secuela to sign up!

## Announcements & Reminders

### GMTD SECRETARIAT

The next secretariat meeting is scheduled for the Friday, May 12, 2017 at 7 p.m. The meeting will be held at United Community Bank in Dahlonge, GA

### GMTD APPLICATIONS

GMTD applications may be downloaded at [www.gmtd.org](http://www.gmtd.org). Please mail to:

GMTD Pre-Weekend Couple  
Kevin & Holly Salisbury  
3910 Argentite Way  
Cumming, GA 30040

When sending, please include \$10.00 application fee. Please call Holly at 770-876-4059 or email at [hksalisbury@gmail.com](mailto:hksalisbury@gmail.com) with any questions. **GMTD weekend fees are \$110.**

### PALANCA GUIDELINES

*(Burning CDs of copyrighted music is a violation of copyright laws, and burned CD's of copyrighted music cannot be accepted as palanca.)*

**Table Palanca** – 6 tables, minimum of 65 individual items.

**Bed Palanca** – 45 for candidates, 80 for team. Team members may receive individual bed palanca. Palanca for specific candidates will be placed in their Sunday bags.

**Kitchen Palanca** – 125 place settings.

**Oven Palanca** – Please drop off at the Palanca room, not the kitchen.

**Palanca Letters** – Write the candidate's name on the letter and in the left upper corner write who the letter is from: sponsor, husband, wife, friend, etc. Letters from family and friends need to be at the camp no later than Saturday night. The earlier the better.

### PESCADORE'S PROGRESS

Subscribe to the Pescadore's Progress at [www.gmtd.org](http://www.gmtd.org). To receive your Pescadore's Progress in the U.S. mail, please send your name, address and weekend attended to:

Pam Layfield  
1688 Antioch Church Road  
Talking Rock, GA 30175

### SPONSORS

Please remember to stay with your candidate until they have been completely checked in during their weekend and all information and fees have been provided.

### UPDATE YOUR CONTACT INFO!

If your address, phone number or e-mail has changed, please notify GMTD Database Manager, Anthony Franklin at:

[www.gmtd.org/PescadoreUpdateForm](http://www.gmtd.org/PescadoreUpdateForm)

*The database is confidential and for GMTD use only to contact sponsors, team members, rector nominees, secretariat nominees, and for general GMTD purposes.*

### REMINDERS FROM THE SECRETARIAT

Weekend rosters are confidential and are not to be used for solicitations or anything other than Tres Dias. The Secretariat would also like to remind you that it is inappropriate to bring children to send-off, closing, serenade, or secuelas. Further, only those that have attended a recognized 3-day weekend may attend Tres Dias functions. We appreciate your understanding and compliance with these Tres Dias requirements.

### GMTD Secretariat Members

Chairman .....	Fletcher Holiday.....	770-401-0308
Database .....	Anthony Franklin .....	706-968-8739
Food Supply.....	Debbie Turco.....	770-656-7378
Fourth Day.....	Dave & Wilna Vinke .....	678-612-9901
Leaders-A.....	Mark & Lisa McClure .....	770-733-6005
Leaders-A (In Training).....	Kevin & Mickey Hill .....	706-768-5301
Leaders-B.....	Randall & Cindy Hallford.....	706-768-4599
Newsletter.....	Pam Layfield .....	678-313-0832
Palanca.....	Glen & Donna Nix.....	770-654-7611
Pre-Weekend.....	Kevin & Holly Salisbury.....	770-235-6619
Secretary.....	Gina Brazinski.....	770-540-1953
Secretary (In Training).....	Layne Frantz.....	706-692-6267
Spiritual Director.....	Ron Glaze.....	770-499-7846
Treasurer.....	Jon & Debbie Newcomer .....	770-490-5755
Webmaster.....	Brad Whitener .....	706-499-2790
Weekend.....	Trey & Kenia Smith.....	678-936-0213

Find e-mail contact info at [www.gmtd.org](http://www.gmtd.org)

### VIDA NUEVA



Vida Nueva is a weekend retreat for young men and women ages 15-20. Vida Nueva is Spanish for "New Life" and like the Tres Dias, VN weekends are intended as an encounter with Jesus Christ. The weekends are similar to the structure of a Tres Dias weekend with certain changes to make it more relevant for teens. VN weekends begin on Friday evening and end on Sunday evening. The cost to sponsor someone on a VN weekend is \$80. If you have a teenager who you would like to sponsor, you can download an application at the web-site [www.gmvn.net](http://www.gmvn.net). A group of teens who have made a Vida Nueva weekend recently put together a video to tell what VN has meant to them. The video can be found at [www.youtube.com/watch?v=8DNV99f2Hko](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8DNV99f2Hko). Georgia Mountains VN currently holds two sets of weekends a year, one in the spring and one in the fall. The next set of weekends are November 2-5, 2017 for the Young Women and November 9-12, 2016 for the Young Men.