



We're Back from Cuba An eyes-on-the-ground report



WE HAVE BEEN WITNESSES to the moving of the Holy Spirit in a very mighty way. We're not even sure if we fully understand the significance of what just happened.

The final count of the books we sent down to Cuba is 67,680 copies of our Spanish version of "Steps to Christ," *Buscando la Paz Interior (BLP)*. We prepared a special version of our BLP for the Cuban Union which contained all five of the Church Division addresses across the entire country of Cuba. In addition to the books, we included with the shipment 63,600 copies of a small evangelistic tract which were donated by a sister in Christ who was moved by the Spirit to get involved with this project.

After a year of planning, fundraising, door-pushing and lots more, the books are finally in the hands of the Cuban people. The Cuban Union Church has been absolutely on the top deck of sailing this ship into the harbor. Though we all experienced a moment or two of skepticism when we first embarked on this voyage more than a year ago, the Cuban Church has stayed with this project and picked up some significant expenses along the way. Without their hard work and shoe-leather support this project likely would never have got on the water.

We met the books from Customs early Wednesday morning, December 13. Customs officials met us and the

container was cracked open. All ten pallets were unloaded onto the street. A box from each of the ten pallets but two was opened and inspected. The Customs people were quickly satisfied, the paperwork was signed and the books were turned over to the keeping of the Cuban Church.

Once we had the books in our possession we quickly loaded them into the container of the awaiting semi-truck. We said our good-byes and the journey across the country began.

We had five stops to make to the five different Divisions of the Church ... several hundred boxes here, several hundred there, until all the boxes were gone. Almost one thousand boxes were placed at the various offices awaiting pickup from the local pastors, who in turn would pass them on to their congregations — two books and two tracts for each church member, one of each to keep and one to give away.

We traveled across the country in the semi on a journey that would take more than thirty hours, almost non-stop, pausing only for needs that are common to man. We went from Havana in the west to Santiago de Cuba in the East. Once the distribution was completed we boarded a bus back to Havana, a journey that would take about fourteen hours.

God truly blessed this project ...

Other than physical wear and tear, these books went out without a hitch. We've had more than a year to develop this plan, and when the time came,

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it seemed everything and everyone fell into place. The Cuban people were so grateful for the books. As witnesses, we felt more blessed than they were. It was both humbling and uplifting at the same time.

Through this experience we have been once again impressed with the idea that “all things are possible with God” — possible ... but not necessarily easy. We’ve paid bills, navigated through the language barrier, wrestled in our minds over whether or not we’ve done this or that “just so” in terms of packaging and handling. And through this whole thing God has shown us what He can do with a little human help. We all — you and we — have been only the footwear in this project, the warriors who have, with God’s help, pulled these seeds of truth and freedom up the hill. By God’s grace and in His strength we have done mighty things. We don’t always win the battles we fight, but it sure feels good when you do manage to take a few inches from the enemy.

Just imagine what God will do tomorrow ...

Thank you for your part in this project. Your prayers and support have made this dream a reality. As you pray, please pray that God will open the hearts and hands of the people who will receive these books.

We look now to the future, and are open to whatever more God may have for the Cuban people. For now doors remain open to us, but Cuban/ USA relations are always developing complications, so we will do all we can while we can to help these people who are caught up in the middle of a diplomatic struggle they have no control over.

Thank you again for your part in this. Without you none of this would be possible. Surely the Heavenly finish line is in sight, and now is the time to keep our heads up and our hearts open to the promptings of the Holy Spirit. To make any kind of donation (large or small) to future Cuban projects — or any other project — simply go to our website and click on the “Donate” button and go through the process. Or call our office on (205) 646-3222 and talk to Elmira Love to make a donation over the phone. You can also send a check to the address over the page. God bless and keep you. And once again

Thank You.

Your Mission World Family

