I would like to begin by apologizing for not sending a newsletter last month. I want you all to know how blessed I am by getting to share with you and receive encouragement and updates back from you. In this letter I will update you all on the last two months, rather than only July.

May ended and June started with Spanish school in Antigua, Guatemala. I am amazed at how draining it is to learn a new language. We would wake up and eat breakfast with our host family and head to class. Class began at 8 and ended at 5. We had a couple breaks and a long lunch break in the day. The rest of the day is all Spanish and every student has their own teacher. When the day was over we would walk to McDonald’s, this was the nicest McDonald’s I have ever been to in my life, and try to study until dinner back at our host’s house. By the end of the day I was tired after sitting and thinking all day. I learned a fair amount at school and I am continuing to take classes with a teacher from the church here in Santa Rosa a couple days a week.

I am certainly learning, but Spanish continues to be my biggest hurdle here. I want to communicate with people and can only do so on a very surface level. I want to connect and teach people; I am struggling as to if I should try to continue be patient to learn more or just try my best to share the Gospel with the relationships and language I have. I believe the Lord will bless efforts at both learning the language and sharing His word either way. Therefore I am content.

Antigua, Guatemala is an interesting little city. It is a tourist city and Guatemala is quite a bit nicer in accommodations than Honduras. It is considered a developing country rather than third world and this shows in comparison to Honduras. There is free Wi-Fi in many places, nice restaurants, and the people are a bit better off. The houses in Guatemala have courtyards in them. This means most houses are actually open to the outside on the inside. In the house we stayed in the courtyard opened to the kitchen, hallways, and dining room. Only the bedrooms were closed off with wall and a door. The buses in Guatemala are awesome as well! They are slightly lifted, blow smoke all over the place, are obnoxiously loud, and don’t slow down for pedestrians. The mountains here are breathtaking. There are two active volcanoes and a few dormant near the city. While we were there we experienced a class five earthquake. No damage was done but it felt like someone picked up my bed in the middle of the night, and very smoothly dropped it and then put it back. Guatemala was a neat experience.

Directly after language school we traveled back to Honduras. We traveled on a very nice bus, but it is quite a trip on the roads from Antigua to the Honduran border in a big bus. It made us all more than a bit queasy lol. On the bright side it is a trip I will not forget quickly. From Honduras I flew to San Diego, California for my sister’s wedding. I was blessed with the opportunity to officiate the wedding for her and her fiancé. I have never officiated a wedding before and with it being my sister’s I was more nervous than I have been in years. Before a big event I am a part of I am a part of I always get nervous,
but this came with an extra measure of pressure for some reason. In the week leading up to the wedding I and my family were able to meet Andy’s, my sister’s husband, family. I was so thankful to get to spend time with my family and sister before the Big Day! The wedding and reception went beautifully and Grace and Andy were married at the end! I so look forward to seeing how the Lord uses, blesses, and shapes these two who are now one for His glory. They have just moved to Denver to begin life after the Navy. They both just made Lieutenant and finished their Navy careers in July. Please pray for this new transition in their life and that the Lord leads them in His path.

**Honduras**

After returning from San Diego I am a bit relieved my long trips are over until Christmas. I enjoy seeing new places but I have been excited to be able to dive into a schedule and invest in people semi-long term in one place. This is something that has been difficult for me to do in the recent years of my life due to moving, changing jobs, long work hours seasonally, etc. Being in Honduras is exciting for me because I can invest all of the energy the Lord gives to me into something of value, and Lord willing, I can see certain things through to fruition. July has been my first “normal” month here. I am working with the boys out at the Moses Project nearly daily, I have work projects I gives to me into something of value, and Lord willing, I can see certain things through to fruition. July has been my first “normal” month here. I am working with the boys out at the Moses Project nearly daily, I have work projects I give to me into something of value, and Lord willing, I can see certain things through to fruition. July has been my first “normal” month here. I am working with the boys out at the Moses Project nearly daily, I have work projects I give to me into something of value, and Lord willing, I can see certain things through to fruition.

**Honduras**

After returning from San Diego I am a bit relieved my long trips are over until Christmas. I enjoy seeing new places but I have been excited to be able to dive into a schedule and invest in people semi-long term in one place. This is something that has been difficult for me to do in the recent years of my life due to moving, changing jobs, long work hours seasonally, etc. Being in Honduras is exciting for me because I can invest all of the energy the Lord gives to me into something of value, and Lord willing, I can see certain things through to fruition. July has been my first “normal” month here. I am working with the boys out at the Moses Project nearly daily, I have work projects I give to me into something of value, and Lord willing, I can see certain things through to fruition. July has been my first “normal” month here. I am working with the boys out at the Moses Project nearly daily, I have work projects I give to me into something of value, and Lord willing, I can see certain things through to fruition. July has been my first “normal” month here. I am working with the boys out at the Moses Project nearly daily, I have work projects I give to me into something of value, and Lord willing, I can see certain things through to fruition. July has been my first “normal” month here. I am working with the boys out at the Moses Project nearly daily, I have work projects I give to me into something of value, and Lord willing, I can see certain things through to fruition. July has been my first “normal” month here. I am working with the boys out at the Moses Project nearly daily, I have work projects I give to me into something of value, and Lord willing, I can see certain things through to fruition.
These are some pictures of the research project we are doing. We will have a garden where we use different tillage, fertilizer, and irrigation techniques in research. We also are trying to construct a low cost, closed system for farming. The pictures show the ground we will use to house chickens, tilapia in the pond one the bottom right picture, an aquatic plant called duckweed, and a garden. The hope is table scraps and compost will create an environment for chickens to eat bugs (eggs will be harvested and the shells will be fed back as a source of protein), the chicken manure will be fed to fish for plankton to grow in the pond for the fish to eat, the ammonia from the fish will help grow the duckweed (which will be fed back to the fish and chickens), and will be sent to the below garden to fertilize and irrigate it. The garden produce will be eaten, sold and at the end of the cycle composted back to the chickens and eventually returned to the soil in the garden. Some fish and chicken feed may be necessary but we hope this is a low cost project to provide people in villages with fish, eggs, chickens, and vegetables for food and to sell.

The Sermon on the Mount

In my letters I hope to be able to give you a word or thought that is good to help feed you spiritually, or at least give you something to chew on. I was talking with my mom and she said a visiting preacher recently challenged them to read the same book every day for a whole month. I like this idea a lot, and we have been trying to memorize the Sermon on the Mount out at the project. So I figured I would read the Sermon on the Mount as often as I can. The Sermon holds so much truth for day to day living in it, but right now a few things strike me about it I would like to share with you.

1. It is how Jesus begins His ministry. He says, “You have heard it was said ….” But then it is as if he says but don’t just obey the law, live above the law. Don’t just not murder your brother but don’t hate him, don’t even call him a fool. 2. We learn who the blessed are and their reward (beatitudes), who we are (light and salt), living as we are called (above the law), how to pray, what is important and what is not, that there is no reason for us to worry, that God is a good Father, and much more as we dive in deeper. 3. And at the end Christ says, 24 “Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. 25 The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock.”

Because it had its foundation on the rock. This made me think, “This sounds like a life and death statement.” Have your house destroyed if you build on sand, or it will endure the tough times built on the rock. This helps me understand the importance of Christ’s words here in Matthew chapters 5-7. I also started thinking about what Christ says to Peter in Mt. 16:13-18. “He was asking His disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?” 14And they said, “Some say John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; but still others, Jeremiah, or one of the prophets.” 15He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” 16Simon Peter answered, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.” 17And Jesus said to him, “Blessed are you, Simon Barjona, because flesh and blood did not reveal this to you, but My Father who is in heaven. 18”I also say to you that you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build My church: and the gates of Hades will not overpower it.” Christ, the recognition that He is the Christ, the Son of God and life for Him is the rock. Wise men build their house, their lives on the rock and neither storms nor the gates of Hades can destroy it. What is your life really built on? What have I actually built my life on? It is easy to confess my life is built on Christ but what is your rock in reality? Riches, the pride of life, family, a drug, sex, health, your computer, etc. Friends and brethren may we have a fact facing faith that we do not fear leaving this world but are excited as Paul was, because we know something better is waiting. Because we know we have built on a rock that cannot be destroyed. I asked myself these same questions, and I want to be sure I have begun and continue to build on the solid Rock!! On Jesus Christ.

—Love to each of you, Landon