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San Pedro Sula 2002 Mission's Trip Report

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*“By this all men will know that you are my disciples,
if you love one another.”
John 13:35*

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Brief Summaries of Projects Planned



Being part of this team was an experience that has brought a host of blessings to me and to Honduras. It was a large group and by far, I felt inadequate to serve and to lead them to Honduras, but they taught me to trust the Lord and to receive help and encouragement from all of them.

Something that was very special to all of us was to be witnesses to Robert Abt's baptism. I have known Robert for a few years now and have noticed how humbly and lovingly he has received counsel from the Lord in so many things, so seeing him being baptized by pastor Perez, was a moving and profound experience.

How did the 2002 Mission's team contributed to Honduras?

- Encouraged and blessed the local church and helped to bring others to Christ!!!
- Brought an able and strong workforce for construction, medical and children's outreach ministries
- Donated construction tools and supplies
- Donated medical/surgical equipment and medicines
- Donated community outreach supplies, clothing, sewing machines and sewing materials, toys and children outreach supplies such as puppets, coloring books, etc.
- Donated instruments and equipment for worship ministry
- Left a financial donation for construction and medical projects.



I feel privileged to be able to serve my Lord with such an awesome group of individuals. I consider that we served well and seeing people come to the Lord or at least showing people a what His love has done in our lives has given me the desire to push forward on whatever capacity the Lord wants to use me. --Nancy Odenbrett

Children's Outreach:

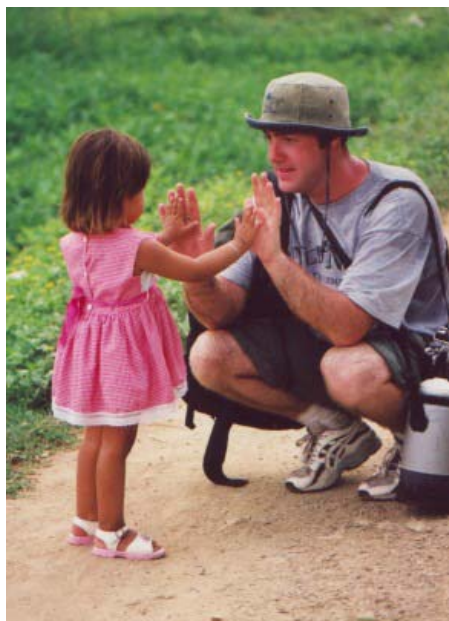


Being that all the props, toys and materials that we were planning to use were in the container, once we arrived we had to work with what was available. So we sang with the children, shared Noah's and the Lost Sheep stories and saw how the Holy Spirit, using our limited efforts, brought to the Lord 120 boys and girls. Restoration Church will do the follow-up and mentoring of these new believers.

Another unexpected treat was to have the opportunity to visit Hogar de Niños Emanuel (Emanuel Children's Home) a local orphanage. Thanks to Courtney Hahm, a member of our team, we're allowed to come to talk and sing with the children. The team was moved to see children that have no one to count their own and a strong desire to return and be part of their lives has begun.



We also got to know some of the children that currently take part in the Moses Project mentoring and sponsorship programs. We spent some time playing, talking and just having fun with boys and girls that we want to encourage to grow closer to God and also teach them to await for a brighter future.



During our visit to Moses Project in Campana we got to meet also some of the students of the Sewing Academy and to appreciate some of the skills that they are learning to supplement their families income and also to help other women participate in these projects. Then we walked with the children to a nearby soccer field and divided to play, color and spend some fun time with all the children and even some grandparents that came along.

Construction:



In size, the Construction team was by far the smallest, but they contributed so much to the startup and continuing of the building for Restoration Church.

All of them worked very hard mixing materials, making rebar frames and getting the Honduran crew to do a more efficient work with the means/materials available.

They also showed an amazing amount of patience and godliness during the process...specially because their tools and materials were not ready as planned.

Something that is important to note is that some of the men in the construction team shared their testimony during the medical brigade and they made an amazing impact on all the listeners especially with the Honduran men many of which gave their lives to Christ.

How did the Construction team contributed?

- Construction tools
- The architectural floor plan for the church building
- Started the foundation work, help setup some of the materials for the columns
- Financially



Medical:

Our Medical team had 10 members from both churches. Initially, nurses were going to triage for the doctors but we had a shortage of doctors to see all the patients so nurses also started doing minor diagnosing and when more difficult cases arose they consulted with the doctors.



Restoration Church had setup small cubicles made of plastic and with the noise from construction and dust and heat during the day it was hard to work, concentrate and listen to the patients and translators but they had an awesome attitude and desire to serve and bring healing to the hearts and to the bodies of their patients.

On an interesting note, Leo Ackerman gave extra consultation to people that came over after the medical brigade was over and Miguel Ruiz gave consultation at the airport.

All of them worked under extreme conditions and showed the love of the Lord not only by bringing physical healing but also by taking the time to share and encourage people to come closer to Christ.

Statistics

- 110 Adult Conversions
- 120 Children Conversions
- 5 Honduran and 1 American Baptism
- 1500 General Medicine Patients treated
- 190 received Dental Care
- 203 Dental Extractions
- 900 received Parasite treatment
- Two 40-foot containers with donations. Each with 20,000 lb. of clothing, medical, construction and community outreach equipment and supplies.
- Financial contribution to local projects in the amount of \$16,464.27

Thoughts from the mission's field...

"I had such an awesome time on the trip, thanx so much for the opportunity to go. my life change a lot and I am so much closer in my relationship with Christ. the hardest thing I had to do on the trip was say good-bye." -- Meghann

"I am becoming aware of how your hand is involved in everything. Your love for everyone on this earth is so apparent. You love me so much that what you can do, you have chosen me to be involved in part of your plan. With infinite love and thanksgiving, your son." -- Joshua

" I'm sure you already know what a special place the Restoration church and the people of Honduras have in my heart, but this mission trip help solidify it for me. I thought the trip was very successful in many ways. The baptism was my personal high point for the trip. The orphanage was another high point for me and I would like the opportunity to maybe bring some of them on a field trip with us." Your brother in Christ Jesus -- Robert

"This was my first mission trip, and will definitely not be my last. The power of God is just overwhelming. The people of Restauracion Church in San Pedro Sula are truly an inspiration to me and I'm sure to others that went on the mission trip. It amazes me that people who have so little can give so much to others." -- Julie

"I'm not the best at expressing things verbally to people, and so I thought I'd share a few of my thoughts by email. I apologize that I'm doing this the "corporate way," Anyways, I just wanted to thank all of you for the impact you had on my life the past couple of weeks. I truly enjoyed getting to know each one of you. I was a little nervous going on this trip. I've been on a few missions' trips in the past, but never out of the country and it was always with people that I knew. This trip was a big step in faith for me, but I obviously was led to go. I know we all experienced change and growth throughout our time in Honduras. I just wanted to let you know how incredible I thought our team was. We demonstrated God's love just by the way we all did what we had to do and did it with a joyful heart. Thanks to EACH of you for your contribution to this trip and to my experience in Honduras. I hope to see you all again next year! Be blessed, Krista"

"What an awesome trip and awesome team! I know that I am changed because of this experience and because of each of you. Thank you and praise God!" -- Judy

The continual fellowship and prayer really brought revival to my life. Great experience, taking part in the teamwork and being united in purpose, seeing everyone put 100%+ into this great effort without complaint. A group of people who didn't know all the others in the group became the Lord's team very quickly and were able to work together and accomplish much for Him. One very special thing to me: When we unpacked the container, I found some medicines I had sent from home. There happened to be a great shortage of those particular medicines, and they were able to be used by the doctor to help several people. That was personally rewarding for me. -- Chris

What about the future?

We'll continue to seek opportunities to serve and meet Spiritual, Medical and Educational needs in San Pedro Sula and Restoration Church's area of coverage.

1. Our churches (River of Life Church, Woodland Hills Church and Restoration Church) have started a relationship of mutual love, belief and social projection for the future.
2. We are strongly committed to continue proclaiming the Name and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ as the one and only source for salvation and eternal life.
 - a. Promote, provide and participate in efforts to
 - i. Start a network and knowledge exchange between our churches leadership and small groups
 - ii. Increase education and treatment of health issues
 - iii. Encourage Moses Projects members and any children we come in contact with, to take advantage of vocational education, English and computer skills provided by Restoration Church programs
 - iv. Continue to support and encourage women's participation in the Sewing Schools
 - v. Continue to support construction projects in the future both with workforce and funding
 - vi. Promote and create a library with books, tapes, videos, compact discs, cassettes and magazines for Restoration Church's people
 - vii. Establish a short-term internships program between our churches (medical, musical, pastoral, small groups, discipleship, children's ministry, sewing school, Moses Projects, women's issues, youth, etc).
 - viii. We still have a second donations-full container that we'll send to Restoration Church by the end of August. We sent a 20,000 lb container before our mission's trip with tools, medical and children's ministries and the second one will also carry the replacement canvas for the tent where Restoration Church has been meeting during the last four years. River of Life Church has covered the expenses for shipping both containers.