

## 2018 Honduras Update

Todd nailed it when he said, “In Matthew 28:19, Jesus said go and make disciples of all nations. None of us are preachers or evangelists but we all have a testimony, a story to share and the unique gifts and talents that the good Lord has given to us so that we can take part in making those disciples and that’s what we do. We’re a bunch of electricians, painters, plumbers, butchers, carpenters and insurance salesmen. I like building churches because even after we’re long gone, that’s a platform where the gospel can be proclaimed. That’s how we take part in fulfilling Matthew 28”. It’s amazing all that was accomplished in just five short days by a group of 14. I love how God can use our various backgrounds and skills to further His kingdom. Since we were disassembling the church, it wasn’t safe to have services in the church so we postponed the main service until Wednesday night. On Sunday, some of the church members and the pastor’s wife loaded up kids’ tables & chairs, and the kids crowded into our vans and we went to the soccer field for Sunday School. Ryan aka Mrs. Fun hid Easter eggs to illustrate Elaine’s story of Jonah that we can’t hide from God. How exciting to hold Sunday School in the city park without any problems. To God be the Glory!



*“Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity”* (Psalm 133:1)! The unity of this team was so refreshing. We had five new team members, three of which had never been on a mission trip before but everyone did whatever needed to be done without complaining. There is something special about hearing someone’s testimony. Maybe after we’re reminded of the mercy and grace extended to us by God then we show more mercy to our fellow teammates. I’m not sure of the reason but I’m so thankful for the cohesiveness and unity of this team working, serving, worshipping and laughing together. Not only our North American team but the unity with the Honduran church members was so special. Paul reminded us “no matter how well we plan, God knows exactly what and who we need. God delivered a cement mixer and key people stepped up to make our week more productive and efficient. During this week, we disassembled the existing building inside a building; loaded the walls, roofs & every scrap you can think of into a box truck; had to demo a raised concrete curb around the entire footprint of the church; excavated all the materials between the old and the new footprints; prepped & poured a concrete slab, sidewalk, steps in front and back of the church; wired the church for lights & sound system; installed four fans; built, sanded & stained 36 pews (8 Hondurans per pew); ran new waterlines; formed & poured a shower pad; eliminated hydrostatic & drainage concerns; installed a window in the pastors home and landscaped the pastors backyard that had received all the excavated materials for two years”. Only through teamwork and God’s grace were we able to worship in the finished church during our last night in San Nichols. Great things He has done!



*“Defend the poor and fatherless: do justice to the afflicted and needy”* (Psalm 82:3). None of us could comprehend how anyone could abandon these precious children at the orphanage but we’re so thankful for the sweet Christian couple that cares for them as their own. Even though we can’t speak the same language, a smile and a hug go a long way. Of course, MoonPies and Dum Dum lollipops are universal as well. What a joy to give them each a backpack with school supplies, clothes, shoes and sweet treats. I don’t think I’ll ever get over how even the boys held up their new pants and shirts to “model” them or when they threw away their old, worn out flip-flops to put on their new ones. We all have our favorite child at the orphanage that connects with us and we even say, “I could bring her home with me.” God has been working on Elaine and Paul’s heart for several years now, seeing Maria year after year. This year their son and daughter-in-law (Garrett and Ryan) met and fell in love with Maria, too. Please pray for this family and for God’s perfect timing as they begin the adoption process. Don’t you love how God works all things for His glory?

