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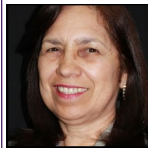
Beloved friends,

One more year is ending. If we look back, we can remember all the blessings of God in our lives and the lives of those around us. Let us not forget that the most important thing is God's love and mercy for us, and our love for others. Our God has sustained us and provided according to our needs; we must follow his example.

This is a time to reflect on, and put into the hands of the Almighty, the lives of those we know and, even more, the lives of all those we do not know, but who are waiting for a word of encouragement or a merciful hand that will help them leave the agony in which they find themselves. 2017 was a year of many achievements, and we thank God and each of you for your love and mercy for those most in need. We ask for your prayers for our country and our people in Honduras. May the light of HIS LOVE guide you and bless you at this special time of year and each day of your life.

"And they will call him Immanuel which means God is with us." Matthew 1:23

Producing with Conservation Agriculture A Story of Transformation



by Irene Zepeda
Country Consultant
Honduras Team

Nery Antunez is a farmer from the community of Cañada Galana. Nery grows corn, red beans, and other vegetables. He is very passionate about farming and is currently part of a farmers' group in his community, as well as a member of a village savings and loan association. Nery is very happy with, and grateful to God for, the great support of the sustainable livelihoods program provided by World Renew and our Honduran partner, Diaconia Nacional.

Through the sustainable livelihoods program, Nery trained in conservation agriculture and then put it into practice in his plot. By implementing practices like careful cleaning and fencing of the plot, the use of zai holes (a water catchment technique), and production of organic fertilizer, Nery has seen a dramatic increase in his plot's production.

"I was able to harvest 16 quintals of corn that are equivalent to 200 pounds," he says

enthusiastically. "Before, I was only able to produce 10 quintals of corn. I am very happy with this result and I am motivating other farmers to practice conservation agriculture."

Nery is excited about all the possibilities conservation agriculture training has opened up for him: his family has more food to eat; he thinks they may even have enough to be able to feed farm animals such as chickens and pigs; and, because he was trained to produce his own seed, he hopes to obtain an even better crop next year.



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

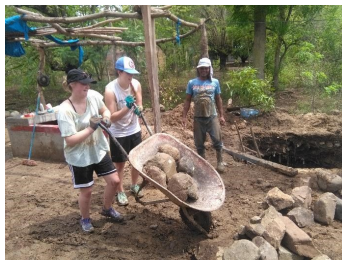
2017 has been another awesome year filled with sharing and serving and many blessings. At the same time, it represents the end of an era, since our beloved country consultant of 22 years, Irene Zepeda, will be retiring from her position in January 2018. We in the Honduran office thank her for her amazing support of World Renew in Honduras — her experience, her teaching, and her help in improving the lives of many of Honduras' neediest families. Her interactions with members of the community are an example to follow, as she always made them feel that they were her equals, that they had a voice, and, most importantly, that they could accomplish anything since God was always by their side.

We want to share with you that this year, thanks to God, we have seen positive changes in all the programs of our partner agencies. We are encouraged and grateful to God and all of you for your help in meeting these goals. God provided us with health, protection, and a personal commitment that makes a difference in the lives the families and communities we serve. You have provided us with support through prayers and donations to help many Honduran families achieve their dreams.

During Christmas we celebrate the greatest gift that God gave to each one of us, the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ. This celebration becomes real when we work alongside each other, as it was intended according to Nehemiah 3, to support the neediest among us, walking with them where they are. This is the meaning of Christmas that we want to share with you, and ask you to keep it in your hearts in the year 2018.



This year we welcomed nine teams filled with the love of our Lord Jesus Christ to serve and share with their Honduran family. These eighty-eight Christians played games, read the Bible, cooked together, lived together, and worshipped together as one big family in Christ. They also worked together to build over 50 cement floors, 70 water storage tanks (pilas), 20 latrines, 3 Sunday school classrooms, 1 water project, 1 well, and 1 classroom. Over 200 families now have improved health and infrastructure. The construction of the cement floors, latrines, and water storage tanks met the need for better health conditions as identified by community members. The cement floors will improve the hygiene and health of children in particular, as many children crawl, play, eat, and sleep on floors which, when made of dirt, harbor insects and parasites that lead to diarrhea and respiratory infections. Storing water in tanks will contribute to the hygiene of the whole family, since families will have immediate access to water used for cleaning and cooking. The construction of latrines helps reduce contamination in the environment and the water tanks allow the supply of water to meet the demands of residents and provide better, less contaminated water.



Finally, five youth graduated from 9th grade this year in the first ever computer-assisted learning center in Olancho. Their dreams of continuing their studies and learning how to use computers are now a reality.

This has been such a blessed year. God is good!

Blessings,
Rolando Pinzon, Bridger



PRAYER REQUESTS

- Pray for a just conclusion of the current election process and the resolution of conflicts between political parties.
- Pray for an end to the violence caused by the current electoral conflict and the restoration of peace among Hondurans.



Country team: Caspar, Leanne, Rolando, Matthew, Eduardo, Glenda, Irene and Reyna.