

Leonel Arriaga

Ministering in El Salvador,
Central America



January 2018

This year began with many evangelistic activities. On January 20th a team from Columbus Community Church visited us and spent a week with us evangelizing in the city of Santa Ana. As I prepared for the team, I went before the Lord and asked him to open doors in the local schools. Classes here began January 15th so I wasn't sure how it would all work out. It was exciting to see how God put the schedule together. We visited the schools God knew would be best. The request from all the school principles was the same. They requested specifically that we speak on the danger of bad friendships, sexual promiscuity and they asked us to preach the Gospel. I have no doubt that the Lord works in wonderful ways. Our brothers and sisters from Columbus prepared three different dramas, one of them was perfect for the students. The name of the drama was Personal Jesus and it really impacted the lives of many. We had more than 15



presentations and hundreds saw the dramas, and the Gospel was preached each time. In each presentation the team gave their best and showed all the love of Jesus. They were able to share with all and in a personal way. The seed was planted. We could see in the young people the need of the Word of God in their lives and also the struggle within to repent and to fall at the feet of Jesus.

When asked what impacted me the most that week the answer is always the same: to see the face of so many young people who need the questions of their heart answered and to see their need for Christ.

It was exciting to see so many youth from our church participating. The team came in the middle of their winter break, so they were able to go out with us every day. As a result of this week of evangelism, two school principles asked me to help them. They asked if I could



teach on values, so I am working on material and basing it off of the Bible.



I want to remind you that it is forbidden to proselytize within the public school, but the Lord has opened the doors so that we can present this in the schools. Please pray for me. Pray the Lord would give me wisdom to develop a program. This is a great opportunity to be close to so many lives that need the Lord. The Gospel has been presented again!!! We wait on God for the fruit.

Kelly Dyer testimony

Hi! My name is Kelly and I recently had the pleasure of spending a few days with Pastor Leo & my friends at La Familia de la Fe. I first came to El Salvador as part of a medical mission team from Stones Crossing Church back in 2007. And God has seen fit to allow me to return (almost) every year since, initially working with the children's ministry and then progressing to seeing patients when I graduated nursing school!

About two years ago another faithful team member, Greg Coleman, began to take notice of a particular community our medical team has visited for a number of consecutive years. Safe water is at a premium in many communities and although this one, El Paste, had obtained water storage systems to help them collect fresh rain water, the amount of rainfall is so variable throughout the year that their supply runs out during the dry season. Greg gathered a small group of us to initiate a discussion with some community members and since that time more exploratory conversations have continued to take place.

In late January this year, God prompted me to pray for some of my friends in El Salvador and an idea formed to take a short trip to visit El Paste (particularly the school where we host our medical clinics) in order to gather more concrete information around their water situation. A few Facebook, WhatsApp and email messages later, Pastor Leo & I were driving out to El Paste for a meeting with their PTA! We were able to talk at length with several teachers, get feedback from a few parents and community members and even meet a local community health worker who has a wealth of knowledge about the area. We also collected a few water samples from both the school and a few home storage systems for quality testing. Currently no specific solution has been decided upon but instead we anticipate an ongoing relationship between our medical team, Leo and the El Paste community to determine the next step together.

In addition, we had the privilege of connecting with the director of a large nursing school in Santa Ana who had expressed interest in the past of forming a partnership between their nursing students and communities like El Paste. Leo (and I... but mostly Leo!) also presented a message to a class of second-year students, which resulted in the opportunity to connect with and pray for three students afterwards. And this is the fundamental reason we do what we do. Far and above any medical clinic or even clean water system, the goal is to partner with Jesus in the transforming work He is carrying out in the lives of individuals and communities. A big thank you to Leo & La Familia de la Fe for allowing me to join in on the adventure!

Meeting with teachers, parents and community health worker



Collecting water sample from school storage tank



Original water sample



Sample after 48hr incubation, showing E. Coli contamination



New building for Sunday School

For many years we have been praying for a new building for the Sunday school in Familia de la Fe. Since last year this burden on my heart has become heavier as the building is quickly deteriorating. (The "building" is a rustic structure made of wood supports and a metal roof) Many have asked about the possibility of visiting the church and helping with the construction. I am excited!!



I have met with an engineer and an architect to draw up the plans for a permanent building for the children and the activities of the church. Please help me pray for this. Pray that this dream will be a reality.

Prayer Requests:

- For a year of vision and purpose for the preaching of the Gospel everywhere*
- For the strength to continue helping those who have the most need within our community*
- My health*
- A new building for the children of our church*

Thank you for your prayers

God Bless you.

In Him

Leonel Arriaga

WORLD REACH

Questions?

Contact us at:
P.O. Box 26155
Birmingham, AL 35260-0155
E-mail: info@world-reach.org
Phone: (205) 979-2400
Also, check out our website at
World-reach.org



Like Us On Facebook

www.facebook.com/worldreachinc

Follow Us On

twitter

@WorldReachIntl