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Helping Honduran pastors grow and minister by providing them with training

Summer 2021

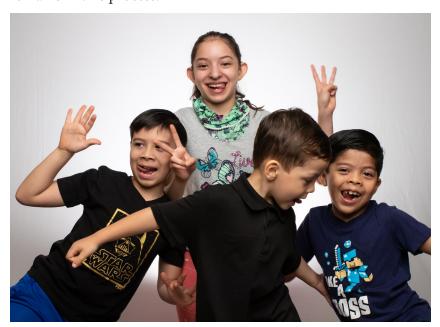
"IT AIN'T OVER 'TIL IT'S OVER."

That humorously wise phrase coined by Yogi Berra once again proves correct. My lawyer and I were surprised by the news that there is an additional step in the adoption process.

While investigating how to register Marissa and Jayden's name change, my lawyer was informed that the adoption decree generated by the court was not the end of the process. The adoption decree has to be submitted for review to Honduras' version of Child Services (DINAF). After the draft of the decree is approved the kids and I will meet with the director of DINAF to finalize the adoption.

It has been so frustrating to get to this point and encounter more delays. Currently we are waiting to see if the latest draft of the adoption decree is accepted by DINAF. A previous version was rejected and returned due to 10 spelling errors! Each review extends the process by about 3 weeks

Please continue to pray for a prompt resolution of what remains in this process.





20-Second Summary

- The kids' adoption is not yet finished. There is an additional step in the process that was previously unknown to my lawyer and me.
- We would love to come to the States in the fall for our furlough. However, after the adoption is finished the kids' name change requires jumping through more hoops to get them new passports.
- Pastors in Honduras, Colombia and Peru have been excited to study the 4-course curriculum that we produced to be delivered via micro SD cards for phones and tablets.

Your missionary with

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Your investment in us multiplied throughout Latin America

While some parts of the world begin to return to something closer to normal, much of Latin America continues to suffer the broad effects of COVID-19. In Honduras, hospitals and temporary triage units continue to be overwhelmed with patients.

Nevertheless, many businesses are functioning at normal capacity with some degree of safety measures in place. A few churches are meeting in their buildings, but overall, events and businesses that would normally have large crowds are still discouraged or prohibited all together. Vaccines have been made available to certain segments of the population, especially those serving in essential services and those over the age of 40 with pre-existing conditions.

World Reach missionaries together with you, our ministry partners, have worked to provide physical and spiritual relief when and where possible. One of the ways we are doing this right now is by providing training for pastors and church leaders. Financial, travel and schedule limitations make it difficult for pastors to access good training. World Reach missionaries in the Americas have created classes that can be accessed online or, in places where access to the internet is difficult, via a micro SD card in a smartphone or tablet.

Over the past 3 months we have distributed micro SD cards and printed study guides to pastors and church leaders in Honduras, Colombia and Peru. The 4-course curriculum is planned to take 6 months to finish. And, although the program is designed for distance education, we have taken steps to ensure the students are not alone. Nearly all of our students have been connected with a tutor or a member of our World Reach team who will accompany them in the process.

Please remember to pray for these students. Our investment in them is multiplied through thousands of others that they lead and teach.









These pictures are from a trip by World Reach missionaries Bobby Wilson (left) and Jon Simpson (right) to deliver the micro SD cards and study guides to pastors in Peru.

And, no, in case you were wondering, it is not a requirement that World Reach missionaries be bald.



Jon in Peru with another group of pastors and leaders



My World Reach - Honduras teammate, Noel Gomez (far right), and I met with Pastor Truman (middle) to see if our SD card curriculum would help him train potential pastors and new leaders. He is part of one of Honduras' indigenous groups, the Lenca.

Three of my honduran teammates and I will present our program and give an introductory class on August 28. Please pray for this meeting. We have had a couple Lencan students in our program in the past, but this is our first opportunity to work with a large group. There are some cultural differences to which we must be sensitive in order to continue a productive relationship in that setting.

Plans for furlough

It has been 4 years since our last visit to the States and we are looking forward to visiting our church and ministry partners. Lord willing, we will be able to travel in the fall. Since Honduran schools continue to meet online we will have the unusual opportunity to visit during this time of the year. Not only is this a better time to visit churches, but this will be Fany and Carlos' first time to experience the beauty of fall and, hopefully, a white Christmas.

At this moment we do not have dates for our travel. Our plans are subject to the delays in the remaining step in the adoption process and related travel documents.

Please pray us through this process:

- Sign the adoption in DINAF.
- Submit a notice of name changes to the main office of the RNP, the Honduran governmental office that oversees individual identification numbers, birth and death certificates, etc.
- Wait for the RNP to issue a document substantiating the kids' name changes.
- Submit that document to the local office of the RNP.
- Apply for new Honduran passports for the kids that reflect their new names.
- IF in the passport renewal process their U.S. visas are not damaged in their old passports, THEN they should be able to travel to the States with both their old and new passports.
- Buy plane tickets.

Thank you for participating with us in ministry through your investment of your time, prayers and finances. We are honored to serve together with you.