



Perdomo Family



WORLD REACH MISSIONARIES IN CENTRAL AMERICA

A CHRISTMAS OF FEAR AND JOY



Christmas normally means joy, laughter, food, and family. However, did you know that in the original Christmas, there was an element of fear? Also, it was not the only contrast that we can see in the Bible during that mysterious and unique time. Let's explore some contrasts included in the message that was communicated that extraordinary night.

First, the shepherds had the natural human reaction at the appearance of an angel, a supernatural being: fear (Luke 2:9). Almost immediately, the angel shares a message that will be "great joy" to all (Luke 2:10). In the encounter with the Kingdom of God, this combination will surely appear. We have fear before the omnipotent and terrible Lord. On the other hand, the encounter with Him who is "slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love" should bring supreme joy, above superficial and feel-good sentiment.

Second, Luke 2:15 tells us about the nervous and excited talk of the shepherds on that singular night: they told each other that they should go to Bethlehem to verify the words of the angels. At the same time, v. 16 confirms that they did what they said. In other words, they didn't just "talk" about what they were going to do, they... did it! How many times have we made promises to God that remain just words or good wishes. This combination of words and actions is exemplary for each of us.

Third, Luke 2:17 reminds us that the shepherds testified to what they had been told about the newborn baby. Those who received this testimony were amazed at their words (v. 18). However, Mary has a contrasting attitude, as she "pondered" these things. What an extraordinary combination! There is a time to speak and tell what God has revealed to us, and there is another time to treasure and process what we have heard, integrating it into life and assuming its implications. What wonderful contrasts. May the Lord allow us to act in each circumstance in an appropriate way. In fear of the Lord, but at the same time, with joy from the Lord. Merry Christmas!



VBS IN DECEMBER

This December, Alan and Dorys led a team of teachers and volunteers from the local church in hosting a VBS for the neighborhood children and those who attend our church. The team of young people who helped in the event did an excellent job, with dedication for the children.

At the event, the children attended in good numbers. Normally, about 50 to 60 children attend our church. However, at this event we had over 100 in attendance, which we consider a success. This event will promote Sunday School and the preaching of the Gospel among children.

The children sang, jumped, shouted, and learned during this special time. "Elena," a nine-year-old girl, said in public that she had learned that the Lord Jesus gives her security and that He would give her strength, even if she faced difficult situations. What a sweet testimony!

Dorys was in charge of directing the team of volunteers, Kyrien led the singing and choreography group, and Alan led each devotional time. We thank God for the opportunity to involve others in ministry and service to children. Also, for the opportunity to present the Good News in a dynamic, joyful, and relevant way to these children. Glory to the Lord!



THEOLOGICAL PERSONALITY OF 2023

AETAL is a continental organization that accredits Latin American Evangelical Theological Education programs. As part of the World Evangelical Alliance, AETAL is a highly respected organization with wide reach on the continent.

This year, this organization decided to name Alan the "Theological Personality" of the year. The diploma says that they do so "giving high honor to the incalculable service provided in Theological Education for 30 years." This unique honor took Alan and his family by surprise. When they told him, he thought it was a joke on the part of his friends. The announcement was held at "Emanuel" Church, the local congregation where Alan and his family serve.

In an emotional and very special moment, and in the presence of Alan's family (his wife and children, his mother and his brothers) and friends, a diploma and a plaque of recognition were presented.

Alan expressed with emotion that honors and rewards are mentioned in the Bible as an encouragement to run and fight with honor and high effort in the work of the Lord. At the same time, he remembered in Revelation, the 24 elders placed their crowns at the feet of the Lamb. The thing is that, without a doubt, any recognition pales before the majestic presence of the King of kings and Lord of lords. Therefore, he thanked AETAL for this high distinction and dedicated it to the glory of Christ, the only one who deserves all the honor.

As family, we are proud of this distinction, which commits Alan to serve with greater enthusiasm and dedication for God and His people. May all the glory be to the Lord!



If you would like to partner with a one-time gift or recurring monthly gifts to provide the support we must raise for the mission of World Reach to serve in Honduras, here is more information:

To donate online, go to world-reach.org/donate to give once or set up a monthly gift via credit card.

We also offer the option to give monthly via an **Electronic Funds Transfer** from your bank account. This is our preferred method because you will incur no third party processing fee, and the transfer can be set up by going to world-reach.org/donate and clicking on "EFT Giving" at the top of the page.

To give by check made payable to World Reach, mail to the address below with a note indicating your preference for supporting "A. Perdomo ministry".



TEACHING ABOUT MASCULINITY

Many of us know that men and masculinity are under attack in today's societies. Alan received a unique opportunity this month to contribute, from the Bible, to the strengthening of Christian masculinity.

In the small town of Santa Teresa, a place with no internet access or cell phone signal, a regional Christian men's retreat was held to which Alan was invited as a speaker. Nearly 100 enthusiastic brothers from the southern part of Honduras came to this event to sing together, have communion, and learn from Scripture about what it means to be men.

For Alan it was a very fruitful time, although he was very busy and tired. The schedule had no less than four teachings from 2 in the afternoon to 9 at night. However, despite his fatigue, Alan had the joy of explaining what the Bible teaches about a man who is strong, but kind; who is a leader, but not dictatorial; who directs his family with a wise hand and clear vision, and presents himself as a role model of a life dedicated to the Lord.

Marco, one of the brothers attending, thanked God for the teachings and asked very sharp and timely questions. For example, one of them was: "How can I help my wife with a long-term illness and, at the same time, live with my needs met?" The dialogue was intense and very lively, but always based on the teachings of God in his Word. Thank the Lord for this great opportunity to share with this group of men about God's design for them and their families.

- The Perdomos

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