



Taking Christ to the Nations

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1 message

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Family Estrada-García

MISSIONARIES IN HONDURAS



Family

The last three months have been very special for us as a family because we have been able to see and feel God's care at all times.

We had the opportunity to travel as a family to a retreat in Colombia with the World Reach team, and we were able to share experiences and friendship with other missionaries and be edified through each workshop. It was truly a time of edification, and God spoke to us in many ways and challenged us in some personal and ministerial areas. We are so happy to be able to apply what we learned first to our personal and family life and simultaneously share it through ministry.

We have also seen and felt God's presence in the midst of illness. Two months ago, Hector was diagnosed with two inguinal hernias, in addition to pain in his left knee, which, thank God, has subsided. Hana got sick with a stomach bug and was on medication for a week. Michelle had an asthma attack that lasted almost three weeks. It was difficult, but at the same time special because God showed us His love through every act of care, His provision, and every person who showed their appreciation during that time.

Without a doubt, difficulties allow us to grow and marvel at God. We saw His love in providing for Héctor's surgery, which was very expensive for us. God provided, and the surgery, which lasted about two hours, was successful. Héctor is now recovering, in pain but improving every day. He has a medical evaluation on Thursday the 18th. Thank you so much for your prayers and messages.

We are also grateful that the girls started school in August: Eliana in 11th grade, Hana in 9th grade, and Michelle in 4th grade. They have new academic challenges, especially Eliana, who has a heavier course load than in previous years. God continues to work in our hearts and guide every circumstance in our family.



Paying attention to God in times of haste

I am lying in my bed. Every time I move, I feel pain in my abdomen due to hernia surgery. Being out of my daily routine makes me feel strange, needy, dependent, and unproductive. My attention has shifted from my daily to-do list to the stillness of convalescence. And in this forced rest, I ask myself: What do I devote my attention to every day?

Attention is defined as "the act of paying attention; care, diligence, interest, vigilance, curiosity, observation, application." We give our attention to what interests us, what we love, or what brings us some kind of personal benefit. "For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also" (Matthew 6:21). The problem is that we often give our attention to things that are "good," that distract us, but that do not nourish the soul. And in doing so, instead of joy, peace, and love, at the end of the day, week, month, or year, we find ourselves stressed, overwhelmed, and burdened. The rush in which we live turns our lives into a succession of goals that we "have" to achieve rather than activities that we want to enjoy with the people we love. We want to accomplish many things in a short time, but the result is not always what we expect or desire.

So where do I find the joy, peace, and love that my soul needs? Is it possible that my attention has been misdirected? Does anyone else feel the same way I do?

I remember then the words Jesus said to Martha: "Martha, Martha," the Lord replied, "you are worried and upset about many things, but only one thing is needed. Mary has chosen the better part, and it will not be taken away from her" (Luke 10:41-42 NIV). Mary was wise, and wisdom does not rush. She chose to put all activity aside. That's right, aside. She chose to sit down. She made a conscious and deliberate decision to focus all her attention on the Master. Everything else can wait. It's not that the rest of our lives are unimportant, but when our gaze is fixed on the Master, everything else seems superficial and unworthy of our attention. He gives meaning to all our other activities.

I want to recover physically from this surgery. But I don't want to go back to the way things were before. Giving my full attention to Jesus means listening to him and filling my heart with the things that fill his heart. In a fast-paced world that demands your attention every minute, who are you focusing your attention on?



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Ministry

In the last three months, God in His mercy has allowed us to continue serving Him in the area of teaching and training leaders in different places, both in person and online. We are currently continuing to support some local churches in training teachers and leaders, as well as Balibrea, our local church, in supporting Pastor Geovanny in teaching and discipleship.

Every month we go to the La Paz region among the Lenca communities with Pastor Jesús Corea, whom we support in training leaders from different communities where there are growth groups. Some villages already have Houses of Prayer, and in others, construction is being planned. During our last visit, Héctor had the opportunity to teach them in the simplest and easiest way how to do an inductive Bible study, so that they can prepare themselves to better teach the Word of God, always remembering that we are the first recipients of biblical teaching, and then we teach it to others. It was so special and moving to hear the testimonies of some brothers and sisters as they shared that they had never studied the Bible in this way before. Usually, they take a passage, read it, and then share what they think, but now they have understood how to go step by step in such a clear and simple way to study the Bible for themselves and then share it with others in the same way. This has motivated us so much to continue doing what God has called us to do and to continue teaching others in love, so that they in turn can teach others according to the heart of Christ.

In addition, during these months we have been supporting the revision of IBM teaching materials that will be used to teach in different countries. Héctor has been working on the format for new third-year courses and adapting others to levels that are more accessible for brothers in Colombia with a more basic level. Angelina, together with a group of women who support her in her writing, has completed a Bible study material for women called "The Sermon on the Mount," based on Matthew 5 to 7. She also continues to work on the World Reach online program, which now has a greater reach in countries in Latin America, Asia, Africa, and Europe.

We truly thank God for your lives, for being part of what God is doing through our ministry. You are an essential part of the team that God has formed to achieve His purposes through the work that, by His pure mercy, He allows us to do. Thank you very much.



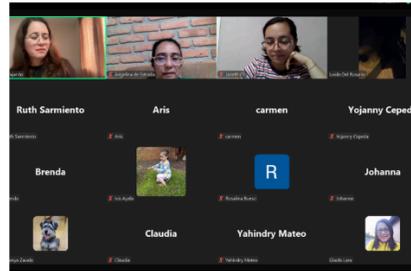
Honduras

This is a presidential election year in Honduras. Please pray for God-fearing leaders for the country. In recent months, crime has increased, especially in large cities with larger populations. It is our desire and prayer that God will allow these elections in November to proceed peacefully and that God's people in Honduras, who are quite numerous, will truly begin to live in complete dependence on God and not focus their attention on governments. When we look to God, He takes care of supplying our needs and guiding our steps as individuals and as a nation.



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Prayer

1. For Michelle's health, that God will continue to provide for her treatment and control her asthma attacks. Also, for Hana's health, especially her cysts and stomach problems. And for Hector's complete recovery.

2.- That God may guide us as a family to serve Him with a righteous heart, keeping our eyes on Him, so that we may pass on this feeling to our daughters and to everyone we are privileged to teach.

3.- That God may use us in His service and focus us on the areas He wants to work on in us and in others, and that He may use us as instruments in His hands.

Thank you very much for your support in all areas. Thank you for joining what God is doing by His grace here in Honduras and elsewhere. Thank you for being part of our team. Together we can fulfill God's purposes.



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 on how to do so: 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 electronic funds transfer from your bank account. This is our preferred method because you will incur no third-party processing fees, 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 the ministry of "Estrada-García Family".

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