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THANKING GOD FOR OUR HONDURAN TEAM MEMBERS

BY COURTNEY SULLIVAN (MATHEWS)

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Sometimes it can be overwhelming to think about tackling all the work God has for us in Honduras. That is why having a crew of Godly teammates is so important. We have been blessed with our close-knit U.S. team, but we are even more overwhelmed by God's faithfulness through the Hondurans he has brought into our ministry.

Oscar and Alba joined us as house parents just earlier this year, but we already wonder how we survived without them. They serve to take care of the young adults at Breaking Chains by acting as mentors, counselors, disciplinarians, and loving pillars of stability. The security and love they provide to our young adults is invaluable. Our young adults trust them, respect them, and value their encouragement and insight. And even when our teens act out as young people in their situation are prone to do, Oscar and Alba are always there to provide loving discipline and forgiveness.

Our youth minister Wualter has now been with us for one year, and we cannot thank God enough for placing him in our path. Wualter came along right when we needed him and has been serving greatly ever since. Wualter consistently shows our teens what a Godly life looks like through the example of his character, friendship and faith.

Our Honduran team members go beyond just serving within their job descriptions. They truly love those we work with at Breaking Chains, and selflessly seek to



HOUSE PARENTS OSCAR AND ALBA SEEK TO LOVE AND CARE FOR OUR TEENS DAILY.

serve the ministry as a whole.

Oscar recently began teaching the teen class at church on Sundays while Wualter fills in with preaching during the interim as we look for a new full-time preacher. And Alba has begun teaching one of our children's classes, even decorating the room.

Oscar and Alba recently took the teens from our ministry to participate in a weekend youth conference at the Baxter Institute in which they were able to connect with other teens from across Central America through fellowship and worshipping God together. And most Sundays, Wualter rounds up a crew of teens to go with him for worship at another local congregation before returning to services at BC in the afternoon.

In addition to helping our young adults spiritually, Wualter also helps our teens prepare resumes and find job openings. He is even beginning to tutor Angel next week in hopes that he can build his knowledge base and confidence to open up more opportunities in the future. He does all of that on top of preparing to get married in December!

Join us in thanking God for this amazing team!

BC KIDS AND TEENS PRESS ON TOWARD SCHOOL GOALS

BY MICHAEL CARSON



Our private-school kids and teens have worked hard all year to continually improve their grades and work ethic. We believe it's important to show our supporters the day-to-day struggles we have as a ministry. We work with a variety of kids with different personalities and family backgrounds, and each child or teen requires a lot of patience and encouragement to succeed.

For our new kids and teens, this year marked their first time to experience the more grueling academic work load of a private school. That type of change obviously comes with a learning curve, and I have loved watching them fight to beat the curve.

One of our teens, Santoni, had never experienced private school before. When we told him we wanted him to give it a shot, he was actually giddy. He has become the best in his class and has displayed amazing report cards. The administration adores him and dotes on him any time our staff visits his school.

Maholy, our fifth grader, started private school for the first time this year too. She couldn't have looked prouder of herself the first time she displayed her new uniform and backpack. Her teacher has never said a bad word about her, and she loves every part of her new school.

To some of our kids, school simply comes naturally, and we love watching them shine. For others, they have

to work very hard to make good grades. Seventh-grader Marjorie, and two of our teens, Rosa and Dixon, all started private school for the first time in their respective high schools. They have fought hard to keep their grades up despite having had previous years in less than mediocre schools. Math is taught very poorly in the public schools here usually, so all three girls have fought to make up for years of poorly taught math skills. I have felt so proud to watch their grades rise as the year progresses. And most of all I love watching how proud they are of themselves.

Teens Rolando and Jimmy have worked hard to juggle trade school and traditional classes, and their success in each has boosted their self-esteem and kept them busy and out of trouble.

Some of our little kids have families who are extremely involved in their homework and education, and that makes success easier. But many of our parents don't have the skills to help their kids succeed. Many of our parents have grown up in an environment where they have learned not to care about their circumstances. Therefore, their children struggle to self-motivate because their parents have no personal concept of that and thus can't teach their children such a skill.

Melvin and Escarlen are two prime examples of kids who love the fun parts of school but struggle to keep

motivation to work to their fullest. We spend a lot of time explaining to their parents that they have to encourage and teach their children discipline if they're going to become successful. We spend as much of our time teaching the parents as we do teaching the kids.

Please join us in prayer for the parents of each of our children. Please pray they continue to learn to help their children help themselves. And pray God gives us patience to deal with the parents and each of our kids. And please pray for our team as we act as parents to each of our teens. Fortunately, God resides in every struggle alongside each of our parents, children, teens and us.



SEEKING CONTINUED PRAYERS FOR BC TEENS

BY AMBER FOSTER

We were so impressed with our teens this summer. They worked alongside the teams and formed lasting relationships. They performed well in school and did their chores at the building despite our crazy schedules and absences.

Summer is often a mixed blessing. Working with the teams makes our teens feel special and loved, but when we're all busy and they are home they can feel left out and alone. They fall victim to self doubt quickly and lose their way, but this summer they did great.

Carolina and Jocelyn have made the decision to move in with family members and Sara moved in with

her boss at the hair salon. While seeing them move on is met with mixed feelings, we love to have them visit and are proud that they continue to follow their dreams.

Skarleth and Patrick moved out of my house and into their own apartment. While it's been a rocky road, I am very proud of how self sufficient Skarleth is, holding down a job and making sure Patrick is taken care of every day, usually by his dad, Miguel. Skarleth still requires a lot of emotional support, and I speak with her daily, but she's getting stronger and very proud of all she's accomplished. Please keep all of these young adults in your

prayers as they seek to find God's plan for their lives.

Dixon, Rosa, Jimmy, Rolando, and Santoni are all doing great in their classes, and the rest of the teens are making progress toward their goals as well. Angel struggles with staying the course as he determines what to do in the future, but he will begin tutoring with Wualter next week to build his knowledge and confidence.

As we work with our teens to reach their goals, we pray they continue to rely on God for strength. Thank you for loving these kids alongside us. We are all blessed by your care.

PRAISING GOD'S MIGHTY HAND FOR LITTLE ALLISON

BY MICHAEL CARSON



Six-year-old Allison is one of our newest private-school kids, but her family has come to church with us for several years. One of our teams built her family's house. Two years ago, Allison began losing her ability to walk, movement of one her arms, control of her bodily fluids and proper use of her vision.

Allison's family was devastated and came to us begging for prayers and support. In a matter of months, this little girl's life changed. She had to be carried, she wore a diaper, she became cross-eyed, and she couldn't form normal sentences. Lorna and Juan, her parents, watched as their daughter deteriorated in front of them, and they had no idea what was happening.

Soon doctors discovered Allison suffered from a benign tumor pressing on her brain stem. Its position made her case nearly inoperable without, doctors said, most likely severe consequences. Allison began receiving chemotherapy. She also started physical therapy to regain proper movement of her arms and legs. Doctors said the chemotherapy would only keep the tumor from growing, but there was no way to do anything else.

Lorna sacrificed everything for Allison. She carried her 60-pound daughter up the steep hill from their house, to the bus, off the bus, onto another bus and off the bus to numerous hospital visits and treatments. Her situation looked bleak, but slowly things began to improve

for Allison as, to the surprise of many, she began regaining the abilities she had lost.

Allison can now run, play sports, does no longer wear diapers and sees whatever she wants. She wears glasses for a now mild vision issue. Oh, Allison is also now almost entirely tumor free, and will receive her last chemo this week. Lorna originally understood from Allison's test results that she was completely tumor free but her surgeon explained that a small portion still remains. However, the doctor also said there is no reason to believe the tumor, being benign, will grow back to bother Allison or her physical or mental abilities again.

Allison is one of the smartest, most interactive members of her class now. Join us please in praising God for this miracle and thanking him for Allison and her family.

THE HONDURAN SCHOOL YEAR RUNS FROM FEBRUARY TO NOVEMBER, WHICH MEANS IT IS ALMOST TIME FOR MOST OF OUR TEENS AND ELEMENTARY STUDENTS TO FINISH THEIR CLASSES. SCHOOL WILL RESUME AGAIN IN FEBRUARY, AND WE WILL NEED SPONSORS TO SUPPORT THESE STUDENTS IN THEIR EFFORTS TO ACHIEVE AN EDUCATION. IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN BECOMING A SPONSOR, PLEASE CONTACT COURTNEY@BCHONDURAS.ORG.



WE HAVE BEEN SO BLESSED THIS SUMMER TO EXPERIENCE GREAT GROWTH AMONG OUR BC CHURCH FAMILY. IT GIVES US SUCH JOY TO SHARE IN THE MANY BAPTISMS, RECOMMITMENTS, AND TIMES OF GENUINE WORSHIP OUR BC FAMILY HAS EXPERIENCED OVER THE LAST SEVERAL MONTHS. PLEASE JOIN US IN PRAYING THAT GOD CONTINUES TO WORK THROUGH OUR BC FAMILY TO FOSTER MATURE FAITH AND SPREAD UNCONDITIONAL LOVE TO THOSE NEEDING HOPE IN TEGUCIGALPA.

SEEKING A NEW FULL-TIME PREACHER

BY JOHN CARSON

This fall we are undertaking a search for our new BC preacher. Our former preacher, Siney Medina, has moved to be with and help grow his former church. We are excited about having a new face around Breaking Chains and for the benefit of new talents and experiences.

This new member of our team will work alongside our youth minister, Wualter, at times with our teens, but most of his time will be spent with our church families and focusing on preaching and teaching. We will be excited to announce the newest member of our team as soon as we can!

We are so thankful for the growing family of believers God has blessed us with at BC. Please join us in praying that we find the right candidate who can effectively relate to and minister to the population we serve and that we can grow our BC family in faith.

We will need to raise the funds necessary in order to support the monthly costs of the new preacher. That cost will be between \$750 and \$1000 per month. If you are interested in helping spread God's love in Honduras through supporting our new BC preacher, please contact courtney@bchonduras.org for more information.



SUMMER GROUPS SHARE LOVE WITH OUR BC FAMILY

BY COURTNEY SULLIVAN (MATHEWS)

We were blessed this summer, yet again, by summer missions teams who came to shower love and service upon Breaking Chains. Twelve teams made up of more than 350 volunteers visited our ministry in Honduras from mid-May to early August, bringing with them open hearts and serving hands.

Our visiting teams served in a variety of ways, including building houses for BC families, participating in our weekly church services, helping pass out food to our friends on the street downtown, visiting children's homes, and completing other work projects.

We love the physical work that our teams do, but often it's the relational ways in which they serve that stick out in our memories as the most impactful.

Our summer started out again with Sunshine Church/ Inner Mission Student Ministry. This group is always so encouraging, but they extended their love and hospitality again this year by throwing a baby shower for Skarleth, one of our young adults. Skarleth was so scared about becoming a mother, and having this chance to celebrate was an incredibly moving experience for everyone involved.

Memorial Road hosted a carnival again this year for the children of Montes de Bendicion, and new group

Central Church of Christ used their Spanish skills to lead an afternoon obstacle/relay course at the end of the summer. The children in Montes are so hungry for love, and we love watching the groups fill them up.

Lafayette Church and the Church at Remmel showed our sponsored education students some love by taking them to see the movie "Minions." Oakcrest was able to help begin the house foundation for our youth minister Wualter, whom they support, and strengthen their bond with him. Northwest Church of Christ built houses with our BC teens and even left funds behind for our teens to build a house on their own. And several of our groups made friends by playing soccer with our teens and helping lead children's class.

Through visiting mission teams, a few of our kids and teens were able to reconnect or connect for the first time with the individuals in the states who sponsor their educations throughout the year. Seeing face-to-face the people who are giving them a hope for the future is so impactful for them.

There is not enough space to mention all the creative ways our 2015 groups served. We are thankful for all the work they did, but even more thankful for the love and friendship they poured on those they encountered!

INTRODUCING BC'S NEWEST TEAM MEMBER: JOHN CANTERBURY

BY AMBER FOSTER

We are very excited to add long-time intern John Canterbury to our team! Upon graduating college this spring, John prayerfully made the decision to dedicate the next two years to working alongside Breaking Chains to develop deeper personal relationships and be a male mentor to our teens.

John has proven himself as an asset to our team the past three summers he has interned with us. His quiet spirit, dedication to a job well done and hilarious sense of humor make him very likeable to both the team and to those we minister. John has demonstrated a strong ability to relate to our kids, and they love and appreciate him in return. Our teens are intrigued by his quiet but joyful spirit, and I think once he is better able to communicate they will find a trusted ally.

He is currently taking Spanish classes and working alongside John Carson on several work projects around the ministry building. He will also work with Courtney to schedule and manage the mission teams and interns that work with us throughout the year, and especially next summer. We are very excited to see where God leads this young man and our ministry over the next two years.



JOHN IS STILL SEEKING FUNDS IN ORDER TO SUPPORT HIS TWO YEAR COMMITMENT. IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN MAKING A MONTHLY OR ONE-TIME DONATION TO HELP HIS CAUSE, YOU CAN DONATE ONLINE THROUGH OUR BC WEBSITE OR CONTACT COURTNEY@BCHONDURAS.ORG FOR MORE INFORMATION. IT WOULD BE AN INCREDIBLE HELP FOR JOHN AND OUR BC MINISTRY!

TO GIVE FINANCIALLY TO BREAKING CHAINS, YOU MAY DONATE ONLINE THROUGH BCHONDURAS.ORG OR SEND CHECK DONATIONS TO P.O. BOX 20454 OKLAHOMA CITY, OK 73156.

PRAYER REQUESTS:

- End of the Honduran school year
- Preacher and house parent search and funding
- Young adult transitioning
- 2016 planning

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