

“Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress...”

Beloved family in Christ:

A hug, a handshake and a smile for each and every one of you.

There have always been widowed and poor orphans in the world. The pagan world of the first century was cruel to the most vulnerable. Orphans were starved to death on Roman streets, and handsome orphans were prostituted in pagan cults. Also infanticide was common, Aristotle and Plato approved in their teachings that children who were born with defects or were not wanted could be drowned at birth. In this context of cruelty towards children in the Rome of the first and second centuries, the Church strongly impacted with the witness of Christ in the care of the orphans and the helpless. Aristides, a Christian apologist of the second century, says in his Apology 15: "The natural of the Christian is his goodness, they love one another, they do not deny food to widows, they rescue orphans among those who are cruel to them. Among them the one has something he deliberately gives it to the one who has nothing"

828 children have received education, God's word and love at Kyrios School even in the midst of the pandemic. These children are the most needy among the community. The teachers at the school have been creative and have worked hard. They take printed sheets to the homes of students who do not have access to the internet. We are very proud of them, and they are very grateful to you for having a job. Special thanks in this report to Craig and Pam for such a generous donation to the school. God prosper you!

Let me tell you about the most significant achievements in helping these children that you and we have achieved together in 2021: 87 6-year-olds learned to read. This is a great achievement, in a country like Guatemala where illiteracy reaches 27%. Illiteracy is one of the main factors linked to poverty. 92 children will finish their elementary education in three weeks, they can add, multiply, write reports etc. This means that these 12-year-olds can get a job in a market, a food sale, etc. And also 110 youngsters between 15 and 16 years old will complete the ninth grade. This is an important achievement, as these young people are ready to get a formal job in a factory, gas station, repair shop etc.

In general, more than 200 children will be helped in a concrete way by this ministry, although they will not continue studying. And more than 600 are still in the process. And this circle begins again and repeats itself every year. But let me report the best to you: 49 young people were baptized into Christ in 2021 as a result of the ministry of this school! Glory to God. Thank you because without your cooperation this could not be possible. We continue to make a difference as the first century Christians did!



Joshua at your left (very tired receiving classes), at the center Joshua being baptized!

Rita in her class of dancing

The pandemic derived from COVID-19 is much more than a health crisis, as it affects societies and economies, and its impact is increasing levels of poverty and inequality.

The statistics for Guatemala are sad and alarming, derived from the last year and a half of the pandemic, extreme poverty in Guatemala grew from 47% to 61% (extreme poverty is understood to be people who live on less than two dollars a day). In the midst of this reality, as missionaries we observe that the greatest need today is that of food. Every week we know of families who call us literally saying "I don't have food for this day for my children (much less for tomorrow)" We quickly mobilize with bags of food that we believe feed a family even if it is the most basic for two weeks. After those two weeks we prayed for another miracle. We also give food to people who have lost their jobs and are looking for food for their family.

Many thanks to all who care and give their generous hearts helping us buy food. On this occasion we want to express our special gratitude to Hwy36 CHOC for their great generosity for this cause! Thanks to all of you we are feeding about 30 families every week. In these times of scarcity every little help is welcome and well used. If anyone wants to collaborate with just a bag of food (\$ 22) this will be a great blessing for a family!



Antonio and his little son Jesus, cleaning streets

Antonio and his little son Jesus clean streets in exchange for food. Antonio lost his job 13 months ago. He knocked on our door and told us that his wife died of covid 7 months ago. Now only he and his little son Jesus remain at home. I could see sadness, frustration and pain in Antonio's life. He lives out of the city, but we contacted him with a preacher from a church near him. The preacher reports to us that he is studying the Bible with Antonio. Let's pray that Antonio finds the bread of life too! All the food we can get comes to these types of people. Thank you, thank you very much for donating for the poor!

Our vision is to be no respecter of persons and to give food to all those who need it. We are sure that all the thanksgiving of the poor redound in blessings for all of you!

And finally, of course, our main focus is preaching Jesus. We do this, among other things, through:

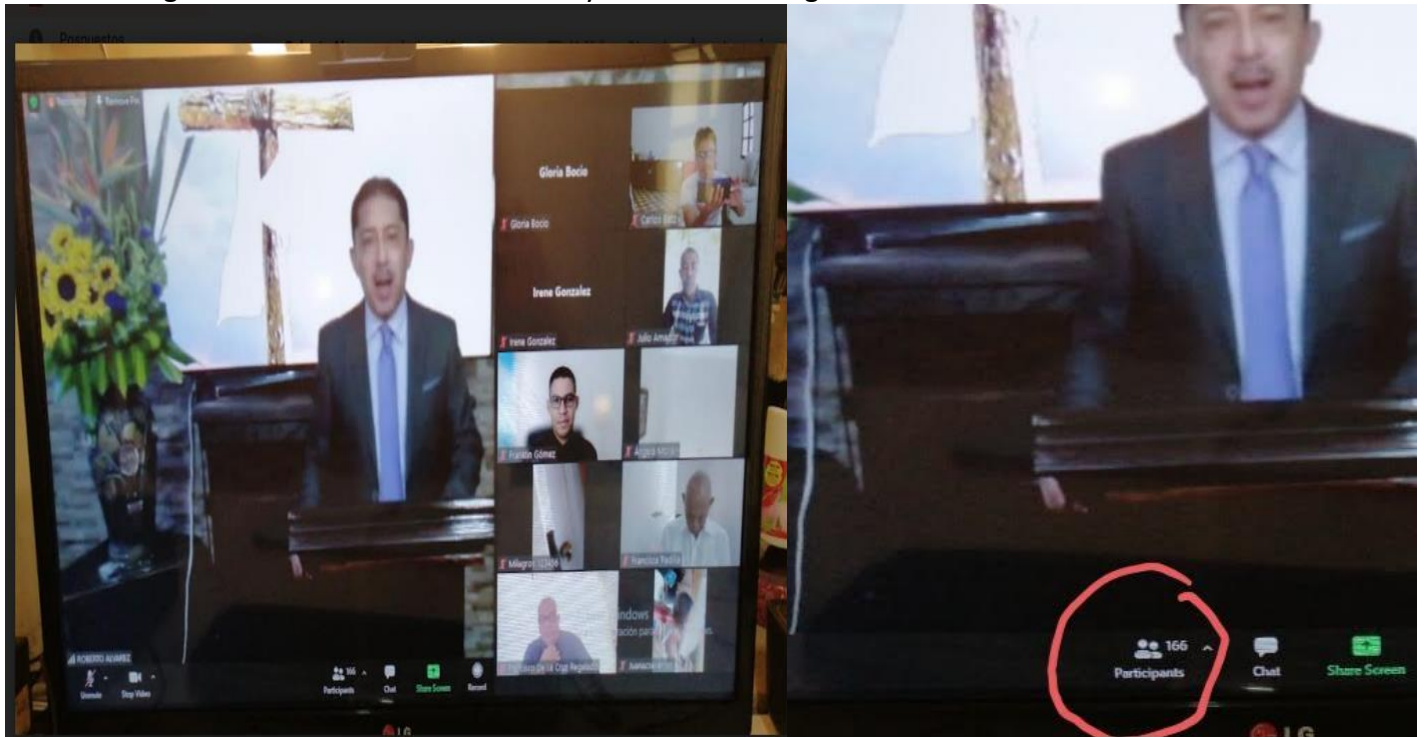
- BICA: train others so that they in turn train others to present the gospel of Jesus to the lost. Please pray for the upcoming graduation of 20 new evangelists who will return to their congregations to continue preaching the gospel in their villages. BICA's graduation will be next Sunday, November 28 at 5 pm (Guatemala time). Hopefully you can join us and be with us on that special day for graduates, in the Facebook page: BICA Guatemala OFICIAL.

Baptisms in October 83 in work with churches on weekends and evangelistic campaign in the north of Guatemala.



The student Laura, walked evangelizing for more than two hours. She told 16-year-old Juanita about Jesus. Juanita decided to be baptized in Christ. Laura tried to contact a man but no one answered, if she returned to look for someone it was two hours to go and two more hours to return. Four hours! She told us what she thought: it is not about me -who is going to baptize her-, it is about Juanita and especially about Jesus! And she baptized her! It is not very common but who could criticize Laura for her conviction!

- **RADIAL PROGRAM EVERY SUNDAY:** Roberto continues to preach messages of hope every Sunday at 2 pm on radio VEA (Evangelical Voice of America) which has national reach. The radio informs us that his measurements indicate that we have an audience of approximately 32 thousand people. Not bad for a population of 18 million. We have reports of 31 people baptized through the program in 2021.
- **SEMINARS AND CONFERENCES TO TRAIN PREACHERS:** Precisely today, Saturday, November 6, from very early at 7am, Roberto was teaching more than 150 preachers from the country of the Dominican Republic. The activity was organized by the churches of the Dominican Republic under the theme "Paul's strategies in the missions" It was a very blessed morning.



Dear brethren, companions and partners in the work of changing the world with the true change that is through the message of Jesus: the gospel continues to be preached in the midst of the crisis, through all of you. People know the love of Jesus! That is why our gratitude is never enough for your effort in supporting our ministry, but we are sure that from God we will receive the greatest reward!

Thank you because without you none of this would be possible. Pray for us please, for the children who lost their parents and will miss them this Christmas, for the people who don't even have a meal on the table. Please, pray and help us find resources to bless those in need, but especially so that the lost continue to hear about Jesus. Our monthly resources are down, so your support is always welcome. We have few donors but we are grateful to God and to all of you!

Pray that the gospel continues to be preached and once again thank each one of you for your spiritual and financial support!

Grace and Peace,

Roberto & Martha