



Honduras Mission 2018

The Mission Fruit

We ministered in three cities to an estimated 864 people and saw 26 salvations, 41 recommitments, and 125+ adults trained in personal evangelism. Debbie and the kids taught three groups of children. We scouted five remote villages in the mountains surrounding Lepaterique for future ministry and met with a church planting ministry that has 17 church plants. We shared the Gospel and saw people saved and encouraged at Casa David, at public hospitals, and even in the mayor's office in San Pedro Sula. Mike taught leadership workshops, men's and youth events, and spoke in a school. Debbie taught a women's group.



Mission Team:
Jordan, Michaela,
Debbie, Mike, and
Zach Thibodeaux

An Expanding Witness

- Mike Thibodeaux

One of the five characteristics of the church that I teach in *Simple Evangelism* is an *expanding witness*. In Acts 1:8 Jesus declared the multiple layers of the disciples' expanding witness. The witness of the early church expanded *geographically* (from Jerusalem, to the regions around, and to the ends of the earth), *ethnically* (from Jews in Jerusalem, to the Samaritans, and to the gentile nations), and *relationally* (from family, friends, and business acquaintances in Jerusalem, to the enemy Samaritans, and to the strangers of the nations). Our Honduras Mission Trip (June 22nd -July 5th) was an opportunity for me to continue the discipleship process with my own family. The kids study about missions, pray for missionaries and the nations, and sponsor a child with Compassion. But now they would go to the nations to share Jesus! Debbie and the kids raised their own support for the trip. They prepared weeks in advance to share Jesus using *The Story* (a gospel narrative of *Creation, The Fall, The Rescue, The Restoration, and A Call to Faith*). I was filled with much joy to see my family sharing the Gospel in Honduras, obediently expanding their witness!

Upcoming Ministry | Our Prayer List

- Aug 19&20 MOS Vision Casting
- Aug 26 Driscoll Baptist Church
AM Worship
- Aug 31-Sept 3 Ukrainian Evangelical Baptist—
Youth Camp
- Sept 4-7 Open Door Christian Academy—
Spiritual Emphasis Week
- Sept 30-Oct 3 First Baptist Church Oxford,
Alabama—Revival

THIS TRIP WAS A SPECIAL TIME of reconnection for me! Having served the Lord in university ministry in Tegucigalpa over 20 years ago, I was truly overjoyed to see my former students now in positions of church and ministry leadership across Honduras. We worked with several of those leaders in planning and fulfilling the work of this mission. Being back in relationship and ministering alongside them again was pure JOY! I praise the Lord for all He has done in the lives of my wonderful Honduran brothers and sisters in Christ. - Debbie Thibodeaux



Lepaterique, Honduras



Soccer for Jesus

- Zach Thibodeaux

I didn't know how God would use me, as a 9 year old boy on a mission trip, but God used me in soccer being a good example of sportsmanship. He used me in VBS being a good friend and helping out. I also shared my salvation story. God helped me understand

Zach playing soccer with the boys at Betesda Church



that my story means something and it can help somebody come to know the Lord. Sharing my story as a kid to another kid and to adults is cool!

I also got to minister to our driver,



Zach and translator sharing His testimony at village church.

Miguel. His life has been rough, and he hasn't had a lot of joy in his life. Just being able to bring joy to him was encouraging and I am glad I was able to help out there.

Ministry at Betesda Church

Mike taught a leadership workshop for 65 pastors and leaders from several remote villages in mission churches started by Pastor Omar and the leaders at Betesda Church. He challenged them to beware and avoid the root sins that hinder evangelism: the sins of building for ourselves, making a name for ourselves, and trusting in ourselves (Genesis 11:1-9). Mike also taught from 2 Corinthians 5:9-21 the four characteristics of an ambassador for Christ: his ambition is to please God, his motivation is the love of Christ, his purpose is to no longer live for himself but for Christ, and his ministry is that of reconciliation. Afterward, Mike preached the gospel to 73 area teens; one young woman was saved and 7 made public decisions of recommitment to Christ.

On Sunday, Mike preached at Betesda, while Debbie and the kids taught 67 children in Sunday School. Following these events, we traveled over very rough roads into the mountains around Lepaterique to visit villages and mission churches. Mike had the opportunity to preach at one of these churches, while Debbie, Jordan, Michaela & Zach again worked with children. During the invitation time, five responded publicly to trust in Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord.

ACROSS THE DIRT ROAD from a small yellow church building in a remote village is a soccer field. I prayed as I viewed the area and photographed the field. *"Could this be the place for a future crusade?"* Pastor Omar shared that this location is accessible for the people of the other the villages. Will you join me in asking God for wisdom and leadership about how I can best partner with Pastor Omar to share Jesus with the people of these villages? - Mike



San Pedro Sula, Honduras

CASA DAVID IS A MINISTRY that was founded by our friend and former missionary to Honduras, Marvinna Hooper, and it is named in honor of Dr. David Harms, another beloved, long-time medical missionary and preacher in Honduras. This ministry is dedicated to providing a safe temporary shelter and meeting needs (food, shower, and place to sleep) of family members of hospitalized patients in the Social Security Hospitals of Tegucigalpa and San Pedro Sula. The staff of Casa David are committed to daily serving the guests and sharing the gospel of Jesus Christ with each one.

We were blessed to work at Casa David in San Pedro (pictured top right) and in Tegucigalpa (bottom right) by serving meals, visiting with guests, and each of us (including the kids!) sharing testimonies and the gospel. We saw 8 guests trust in Jesus as Savior and Lord in the days we were there. In the five years since Casa David was founded, there have been 700 professions of faith in Jesus Christ!

Will you join us and the *Simplicity Ministries*® board of directors as we pray and ask the Lord for wisdom and guidance about how we can partner with and encourage the wonderful ministry of Casa David?



Making an Impact in San Pedro Sula

In addition to working at Casa David, SPS, we did ministry with Iglesia Impacto. This church is truly making an "impact" in this city, and we were blessed to take part. Debbie and the kids worked with VBS for two days, and Debbie spoke at their women's breakfast. Mike challenged the men's group with a message about "Divine Vision" from Psalm 78, and preached for Impacto youth where three were saved and seven made recommitments to Christ. Mike also met a "modern day Matthew" - a tax attorney named Solomon - who is a young believer with a passion for bringing others to hear the gospel. He and Mike had two lunch meetings to share Jesus with nonbelievers, and Solomon invited Mike to speak with his staff in the mayor's office where one young woman, Kary, was saved!



Mike, Kary (new believer), Teto (Pastor of Impacto)

Tegucigalpa, Honduras



Sharing the Gospel Story

- Jordan Thibodeaux

Our mission trip to Honduras was a wonderful experience, and I definitely learned some valuable lessons while I was there. I got a great introduction to foreign missions. God taught me a lot about perseverance, living outside my comfort zone, and flexibility.

God opened the door for amazing ministry opportunities for us while we were there, some that we had not even planned for. I personally was able to participate in sharing the Gospel story with over 100 Honduran children. (Check out *The Story App* by SpreadTruth.com)

In addition, I gave out 35 toys that I crocheted to children at the government hospital. We played with each of those 35 kids, and I was blessed to watch as one of our Honduran friends led a 15-year-old to Christ.

I also got to witness and enjoy the unique bond between Christian brothers and sisters, a bond that exists even with Christians who don't speak your language and are not from your culture. God gave us the opportunity to make many new friends. I can't wait to go back to visit! Thank you to everyone who prayed for our family as we embarked on this journey. For me, I hope that it was just the beginning of many missions opportunities to come!



Evangelism Workshop at Communion

It was an honor for Mike to teach an evangelism workshop for 86 adults from Communion Baptist Church during their Adult Sunday School and morning worship. It continued with two afternoon sessions for about 40 leaders. This church is a mission minded congregation with multiple teams that take turns going to small village churches to serve three Sundays a month. Pastor Julio Pacheco also leads a church planting ministry with 17 church planters. Julio has invited Mike to speak October 11-13, 2019 at a missions conference to train church leaders in *Simple Evangelism*. Please join us in prayer for translation work and preparations for this conference.

NERVOUS, BUT DEPENDENT



I WAS A LITTLE NERVOUS going into the Honduras trip, but I watched God use our family to do some amazing things while we were there! I was able to connect with three girls in particular. One of them was homeschooled and spoke English very well. The other two didn't speak much English but between my Spanish and their English we were able to get to know each other. God taught me that believers in other countries are not very different than I am. They are my brothers and sisters in Christ.

Here are a few other things I was able to do in Honduras: First, we helped with VBS in San Pedro. I was nervous going into this because

"I was a little nervous going into the Honduras trip, but I watched God use our family to do some amazing things while we were there!"

- Michaela Thibodeaux

I wasn't sure what I'd be able to do or how much Spanish I would have to speak, but it turned out I was needed to do the photography and didn't have to talk much at all. At Casa David, I got to share my testimony twice and one lady was saved! I also went to the hospital where we talked and prayed with kids and handed out toys and candy. This was a cool experience.

I wasn't sure about going to Honduras at first, but I am so glad I did. I was a little scared to go to a different country, but in the end I didn't want to leave! Thank you for praying for us and for partnering with us in leading people to Christ!