



Kay and Jim Hines

Guatemalan Girls Life Project

Hesed Life Ministries International

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Deuteronomy 31

⁸ The Lord himself goes before you and will be with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged.

Hebrews 13

⁸ Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.

Since we began GGLP in 2013, we have gone to Guatemala every May and October to visit the ladies, see how they are doing and encourage them. At this time, we do not know when we will be able to go this year. So, this letter relates more to our ongoing conversations with them rather than an actual visit. You may recognize some of the pictures as we have no new ones! We will attempt to give a brief update. Blessings to you and your family, Kay and Jim

Covid-19 and Life in Guatemala

As expected during a pandemic and economic crisis, the poorest suffer the most. Though Guatemala may not be the worst, many of the people are suffering greatly. In January a new president took office, a cardiologist who truly seems to want to help the people but the resources are so limited.

From the beginning they have been on lock down with a 4 PM to 4 AM curfew daily. People are being arrested if found on the streets during curfew. All public transportation was suspended, which is the only means for poor people to travel.

The second week of May they were told on Thursday afternoon that stores would be open from 8 AM to 11 AM Friday and then everything would be closed until Monday. Many people buy their food daily in small stores in their neighborhoods. Because of very long lines, many were not able to obtain food. Even apart from this, there are many people starving, especially children.

Our young ladies in Guatemala are struggling, some significantly but most of them truly understand that God is their source and protection. We and they rest assured that He will never forsake us or abandon us. He does not change and none of this is a surprise to Him. He remains sovereign and in control. Kay and Jim rejoice in being a part of His plan for the people of Guatemala. Thank you for your obedience to God in ministering to these young ladies.

Nincy, Mayra and Reyna Emelia

Nincy

finished her high school equivalence program in November 2019. She has started English classes with a goal of being employed in an English-speaking call center. Her husband lost his job because of the pandemic. With help from Hesus, Nincy was able to buy a large bundle of used clothing and is reselling it to try to provide income for her family.

As expected, others have also lost employment. *Myra's* husband was working as a waiter at a country club but lost his job. *Reyna Amelia* who is studying to be a social worker lost her job as a part-time English teacher. With each of these we have needed to increase their financial support until they can resume employment.



Mayra, Reyna Emelia, Judith and Nincy

Judith and Catty

Judith

is in her third and final year of studying to be a medical lab technician. She is training in a hospital and until the most recent lockdown she was able to continue to go to the hospital and continue her studies. Her 2 sons are not in school and we are paying for child care. We remain hopeful that she will be able to graduate on time this year.

Catty

continues to work at the school for the children who are at Prince of Peace Home. Previously her primary responsibility was tutoring the girls when they came home from school. However, because of the pandemic all schools are closed and the girls are being taught directly at Prince of Peace. It has been a lot more work but because she does live at the home she is safe and has adequate food.

*Joselin, Lisdenia and Maricruz***Joselin and Lisdenia**

remained very focused and are doing amazingly well in their studies at the University. They had been tutoring but because all classes are now online, that is no longer happening. In December we asked for special contributions for these young ladies to help with living expenses so that they could concentrate on the University. The response was generous and has allowed them to continue. We will need additional help for them to be able to finish the school year. If any would like to participate, please, when you send your donation, include a note that it is for Joselin and Lisdenia.

Maricruz

works for an American based ministry in Guatemala. It has been a very successful ministry and she has done an excellent job in being the Guatemalan lead person. However, most of the income for the ministry comes from teams from the United States doing service projects. Obviously, that is not happening now and her future employment is uncertain.

*Lisdenia, Kay, Maricruz, Joselin and Deisy*

In December we introduced ***Dulce Jassmin and Neydi Lizet*** as new students. They're both continuing with their studies at the University. Dulce's job has been put on suspension. Neydi's job has been terminated.

Deisy

is a supervisor in a call center for UPS. She has been able to continue to work and continue her university studies and is doing very well.

Hesed Life Ministries International

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Donations can now be made online using a major credit card or Paypal.

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Yojanna

Yojana

works for a ministry, funded mostly by North Americans. One of the focuses of the ministry is feeding children. The pandemic has caused severe food shortages in Guatemala and many children are starving. Consequently, she has been very busy as they have greatly increased their feeding program. She has continued her studies at the university to be a social worker.



Fabiola

In March we reported extensively on Fabiola and the desperate situation of her life . We have been able to continue to maintain communication with her. She is attending English classes but now it is all online. She is doing that with her telephone but she really needs a computer. If you could help, it would be greatly appreciated.

Her family life continues to be very stressful. As previously mentioned, her mother recently died. Fabiola was the oldest child in the family and the only one was sent to the children's home. Consequently, she was absent from the family most of the time and did not develop a good relationship with siblings. Now they do not want her around. Her mother owned a small piece of property and her siblings want to sell it and exclude Fabiola from it.

With the onset of the coronavirus, she has not been able to find employment. She has however started talking with our psychologist. It is a slow process but we are continuing to seek and believe God for her restoration.