



GIVING LIFE, BRINGING HOPE TO ORPHANS IN HONDURAS

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## Leaving the Nest

By Alexis Cruz



My name is Alexis Cruz. I am 18 years old, and I've been living in the village since I was 6. I have always liked to study. I like and enjoy math, physics, and contemporary history. In my free time, I like to paint, read books, and watch TV. My favorite sport is soccer, and I am a member of a soccer club in Puerto Cortes. I only do it for fun, though.

I don't remember when I asked Jesus into my heart, but it was sometime between 7 and 9 years old. I am so thankful to God that I got to be part of this family. The leaders have taught us English and we have received a good education. I consider myself a very blessed person. I have been in trouble, too, so experience has taught me a lot. I like to have friends, and though I am a little bit shy, I always try to meet new people. I really admire Miss Mary, Tio Oscar, and Miss Amy. They have been good examples to us of how we should live. Where would I be if God had not worked on these people's lives? Being our leaders, our counsellors and our parents, they have taught us many good things.

I just finished my last year of high school. When I was in second grade, I promised myself to get good grades in every homework assignment, in tests, and in final grades until I graduated from high school. I realized this would require an uncompromising, diligent and passionate attitude from me, including the sacrifice of my time and efforts. Many times I stayed up late at night studying – did not go to play soccer; did not watch movies with my brothers. I did not feel sorry about it. Because when I looked at those papers that showed my grades, a happy face is what I got in return, and satisfaction.

When I think about my life, I understand that I do not deserve any of this, and I ask myself, why me? Why did you choose me, God, to be part of the greatest family in the world? I am very thankful for this.

I was recently asked to list my best qualities. I consider myself to be a considerate person. I am very respectful, responsible and mature. To me, the most important of these qualities is "considerate", because I realize all the things that so many people have done for me. To make life better for my H2H brothers, I help them with their homework if they do not understand a problem. I get up early to help the mommies by waking up the little children at 4 am to go to school. I make sure they make their beds, organize their clothes, and are ready before the bus starts to school. I am also a Big Brother to some of them. Besides helping with homework, I pray with my brothers and we read the Bible together.

In my future, my first goal after college, is to become an airline pilot. I also hope to marry a beautiful inside and out Christian girl, and have a family. Then I want to help other people travel and visit many countries. God wants me to honor Him in what I do, to tell others about Him, and to show His love. He wants me to give my testimony of what He has done in my life through my actions, and to encourage others to salvation in Christ Jesus. If I don't reach my first goal, my backup plan is to get a PhD in mathematics and work at NASA, or study to become an architect.

My favorite Bible verse is Colossians 3:23 – "Whatever you do, do it heartily as to the Lord, and not unto men." I believe if I live my life by this verse, God will be with me and will guide me in each step I take.

*"Whatever you do, do it heartily as to the Lord, and not unto men."*

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## Amy's News

# RAISING OUR KIDS

The kids are back to school, and it's been a whirlwind making it happen! Back packs, supplies, uniforms, books, shoes... for 76 kids! In addition to the 76 children attending our bilingual school, we have 7 children in our Spanish school, three in our special Ed classes, and I've lost count of those now in college. The school year is off to an incredible start, and the parents and staff are excited and encouraged. This year, six of our students who graduated this spring are working as assistants at the school and are already doing a fantastic job! I want to give a huge shout out to the amazing people who contributed backpacks, jeans, shoes, supplies or the funds to purchase those things. We could not do this without your help!



Earlier this month, Steven, Rebecca and Stephanie Ware escorted two of our precious children on the beginning of their new adventures! Francisco will be living in New York for the next school year doing his senior year of high school at Chapel Field Christian School in Pine Brush, New York. His sponsors, Tom and Susan McGowen, are graciously hosting Francisco. Please pray for Francisco as he attends a new school and faces his first real winter – Brrr!!



Olvin has been in the US before but will be changing his residence and school. Thank you to Jeramiah and Alicia Hansen for hosting Olvin last year. He is now moving to Vancouver, WA to continue his college education. Olvin will be living with some dear friends and former teachers at our school, Jordan and Abby Rinta. Thank you Rinta's for hosting Olvin and thank you to his education sponsors who are helping him attend college. Pray for Olvin as he starts his new adventure in Vancouver!

Sometimes I am overwhelmed by the needs of raising over 100 children to be responsible adults. How do you get shoes, supplies and uniforms for almost 100 kids? How do you put 15 kids through college? How do you do all these things and still provide for their daily needs and still offer all the love and attention they need as well? God amazes me, time after time. He has this! They are His kids! He continues to provide for these children when and how they need it. Please continue to pray that we will have all our needs met for our staff at both the village and the schools.

We want to say a special thank you to Jay Quattlebaum and the people at Agua Pura. They dropped by our office last Saturday with 100 pairs of soccer shoes - all in beautiful condition! We can't wait to get out there and play some soccer!

Next, Reina, Wendy, Genesis, Olga, Iveth, Mayra, Nohelia, Jehovany and Nelson will be starting either college or technical school here in Honduras. Some will begin in September and others in January. They have grown up so fast!

One of the most amazing qualities about this ministry is the people God has put around us to love our kids and have the heart to help. In the past couple months, we have had significant need and turned to our "people" for prayer and support. It was uplifting to know that hundreds of people were praying over us! Those prayers have manifested in God doing amazing things for us. Thank you to each and every one of you who heeded our call and lifted us in prayer!

I will leave you with one final prayer request for our house mommies. This will be Joselyn's, one of our girl's house mommies, last month. She has been an amazing house mommy and will be deeply missed. Please pray we can find someone to fill her shoes, and pray for all of our house mommies each day as they carry these precious kids in their hearts.

We are still in need of sponsors for our kids. If you currently do not sponsor one of our children but are interested in doing so contact our office. We are hoping for 200 new \$50 per month sponsors this year. We deeply appreciate each and every sponsor of these precious children. Your dedication and heart for these kids amaze us!

- Amy







## SAVE THE DATE

### 9th ANNUAL BENEFIT BANQUET

Saturday, November 10, 2018

**FEATURED SPEAKER: Wm PAUL YOUNG, Author of The Shack**

**For More Information, call**

**503-427-0258 or Email : OFFICE@H2HCV.ORG**

## A Picture is worth a 1000

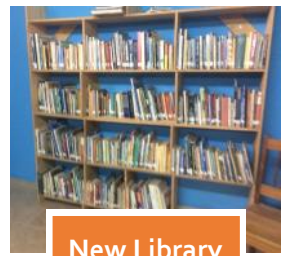
## words!



**Wonderful**



**Blessings given - Blessings Received!**



**New Library**



**BEAUTIFUL**

The Kids



**ON IT'S WAY UP!!**



**New English Academy Lab - Installed**

## SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS



Karla - 14



Cristian T - 14



Julissa - 10



Arlen - 16



Idalmi - 15



Dunia P - 3



Belkis - 18



Delia - 16



Olaga - 21



Luis G - 20



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2 Corinthians 1:3-5 (NIV)

“Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves receive from God. For just as we share abundantly in the sufferings of Christ, so also our comfort abounds through Christ.”

## RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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*When it comes to orphans we're not liberals or conservatives. We are radicals!*

**TO OUR HEART TO HEART COMMUNITY—THANK YOU!**

## VOLUNTEER

Below is a list of upcoming teams who will be going to our Village to love our children and support the ministry. If you are interested in going, please contact us at [office@h2hcv.org](mailto:office@h2hcv.org). Join us!

### **2018**

**Oct 29-Nov 6 School Support, Gary Thacker Leader**

### **2019**

**June 17-27 Maintenance Team, Bethel Church**

## Gift/Letter Dates

To get gifts & letters to our kids on time we need to receive them at our office by the following dates:

**4th Quarter      October 1, 2018**

**Christmas        October 1, 2018**

**1st Quarter        January 31, 2019**

**2nd Quarter        May 15, 2019**

**3rd Quarter        July 15, 2019**

Thank you for supporting our kids.

Newsletter Feedback? Contact us—[office@h2hcv.org](mailto:office@h2hcv.org)

—Information provided to Heart to Heart is held in the strictest confidence and is not shared outside of the organization—