



Merry Christmas

From The Jackson Family

December 2017

Hello Praying Partners and Co-laborers in the Ministry,

As I write this final letter of 2017, I am reminded of how fast time passes. So many blessings have made 2017 a year to remember. Yet, we as Paul, do not want to focus on the past, but rather, *“reach forth unto those things which are before”* (Phl.3:13). However, we would be remiss if we did not *“Return to thine own house, and shew how great things God hath done unto thee...”* (Luke 8:39).



We are so grateful to the Lord for His presence and guidance in our lives and ministry here in Honduras. Early in November we had a baptismal service which always encourages the church to continue witnessing for the Lord. Pictured is Pastor Josue baptizing one of the young men who accepted Jesus Christ as his personal Savior. This year God added to the church in an amazing way; 56 people joined the church.



In addition to adding new members to the church, God allowed us to participate in the training of a new pastor. Pastor Pedro Avila was ordained into the ministry on November 19, 2017. He and his family are serving the Lord in the church plant located in Los Robles.

The week after Pedro’s ordination, Honduras had a national election that became very violent. The people rejected the findings of the “Election Committee” and took to the streets to show their frustration. Unfortunately, many buisnesses were destroyed and several lives snuffed out by the lawlessness that ensued. During this time, the national police decided to use this event to their advantage and went on strike to get the bonuses and payments they were promised. Danli, where we live, thankfully avoided many of these horrific acts, yet, we were not totally spared as seen in picture on the right.



In the midst of this turmoil curfews were enacted, threats were made and much damage accumulated. Yet, through these difficult periods of time there were blessings as well. We were able to “Go Live” using Facebook to record our Sunday evening service. More than 1500 people saw the post and many comments were left as an encouragement. That service opened a door that we had not anticipated. As a result, during 2018 we will try and develop this new ministry to be used more frequently to reach those that are not within our reach.

As I mentioned in a previous prayer letter, we started building the youth camp/Bible Institute facility. The first phase is a dorm room building that will house 96 campers. If you would like to help with funding, the bunkbeds needed are going to cost about \$200 each, and in total there will be 48 beds. The second phase is another dorm room of equal size on the other side of the property.

Thank you so much for your prayers and friendship. We truly appreciate every note, card and email that we receive. You continue to encourage us to focus on what is important—Christ! Merry Christmas from our hearts to yours. We pray that 2018 will be a blessed year for each of you.

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