

Cole and Sarah McCauley, your hands and feet for the orphaned

Sep 19 - O Lord my God, I know you hear our prayers; time after time you have proven so. I think back to the first time you manifested yourself to me: it was so real and so rich, there was nothing more real. I wasn't even looking for you, I was looking to get high, but you entered my life: it was irresistible, and you have been my greatest treasure and desire ever since. Oh Lord, please help us to abide in you, to remain in all that is good, true, and perfect. Father, we need you, oh how we need you. My soul hurts for the things I don't understand. Please give us a couple for the girls' home who will be faithful to love them through the ups and downs, the easy and fun, and the challenging and stressfulness of raising children. Lord, this can only be done by a gift of your Holy Spirit, this heart of love and sacrifice can only come from you. Father, please give us what we need. We ask for a couple with deep commitment to love you and your righteousness, and who have a clear call to love and suffer as they love the broken children you've given us. Lord, we need you!!!

Sometimes I get so overwhelmed that I can't see the good I know our God is doing. I feel like I'm in a cloud that I just can't seem to find my way out of. As I walk through this cloud, I don't know which way to turn... should I take this way or go this way...fear sets in as I over-contemplate the consequences if I make the wrong decision. And as the pressure of the cloud and uncertainty of what to do next presses in, I find myself frozen. When I don't know where to turn, I cry out to God. I know He's there, and I sit and look at the map for life I've been given (my Bible). I can see what is right, I can put into my head what is good, but as I look back at the circumstances we have to navigate, what is right isn't always so clear. It's not black and white.

Sep 24 - It's always fun to see the many ways that our God works in these circumstances. To be completely honest, I had been quite downcast as you can tell from the beginning of this letter. But since then, I have been given two wonderful pieces of news. But first, let's start where these blessings all began...Since Juan and Fermina were children, they had a thing for one another. During their childhood, they both grew up at Casa de Mi Padre, and since they were under the same roof, and because they were so young, we prohibited any relationships and did our best to keep them from doing anything stupid. But as many of us know, infatuation and love are hard things to control, so they still had some forms of pursuit off and on over the years. Occasionally, when we would be concerned, we would talk with them and have consequences as necessary. Other than this puppy love problem, Juan and Fermina have grown up respectfully and continued in our ADVANCE program after aging out of our children's home; Fermina has lived with my family for 4 years and Juan lives at Shane's house. Fermina for many years was at the top of her class and our number-one bible quizzer. She now works in the afternoon organizing and directing our extra-curricular programs at Casa de Mi Padre. Juan had a few more struggles, nothing abnormal, and mostly because of other influences in his circle of friends. He has definitely matured. He is a great soccer player and a good leader and help in our ministry. Eventually, since Juan was studying business administration, he has helped Shane with accounting and other task regarding Shane's responsibilities over the home. Fermina, Juan, and Juan's sister Reina (who also grew up in our care) now run our bible quizzing program for the children of Casa de Mi Padre.

Because of Juan and Fermina's desire for one another, I would have talks with them over the years to check that they were respecting boundaries and honoring one another. This year, Shane and I once again spoke with them, and we set new boundaries that allowed them to pursue each other with marriage in mind. It's been a good year, and they have been able to intentionally pursue one another. It has been great to see each of them mature over the years, and just in the last two weeks, I had two moments that made me very thankful for each of them. During one of our weekly soccer games, I was noticing that Jaun was not taking every shot at the goal available to him but rather he was passing to some of the other kids who aren't necessarily the most talented. He was giving them the opportunity to play and kick for goals. I thanked God for him and his heart as we played. One evening, Sarah and I took some of the children who had reached their monthly goals out to eat. We also took Juan and Fermina. After we all finished eating, the kids went out to the play area. When I walked out, all the kids were surrounding Juan and Fermina and they were cracking up laughing. It was a precious sight, and I thanked God for them.

Ok, back to my terrible, most miserable, unbearable start to this letter... I was a week into multiple issues that were weighing me down. We had decided to change the church where we and all of Casa de Mi Padre attend. Although this is a good thing, it doesn't mean that it was easy; telling our pastor and breaking it to the children was tough. Then the week after that, we were informed by the couple who live in our girls' home that they did not feel that they could continue to work as house parents. They have 4 daughters of their own and were struggling to adjust; we understand their difficult situation.

I think this is the part that hurts and is so frustrating. I know the Character of our God, I know that He is good, and,

yes, I also know that He has great purposes in all suffering He ordains. But our girls have had 3 different couples in a year and a half. It breaks my heart, and I have so long cried out that God would send us people to serve with a steadfast call, love, and sacrifice. Why wasn't it the last couple? Here we are again, looking for another couple. Oh, my heart has hurt deeply over the past few weeks, and I have even questioned God in the ordeal.

But I see some light. I don't know all that God has planned, but I do know that He works all things for the good of those who love Him and are called according to His purposes. Regarding the church change, God had made that clear before we moved churches, and even just in our first few weeks in the new church He has again confirmed that this is the Gospel and doctrine He wants our children to sit under. Now, regarding a couple for our girls' home...

I was praying and thinking about how we would get by and have the girls' home covered until we can find a quality couple. As we were all working in the office one morning, I asked Juan and Fermina if they would be able to help with certain hours to care for the girls until we found the right couple. They said yes, no questions asked. I thought, "Well, that was easy," and I returned to writing the beginning of this letter. After about 15 minutes, Fermina asked what I thought about their getting married by a judge and doing a fancy ceremony later. I shared my thoughts and wondered what they were thinking. They responded that they have seen the girls over this time and that they don't like what they have gone through. The reality is that lots of people want to work for Americans and serve God in their work, but they don't understand the reality of what that means. They don't understand how taxing it is day after day, and how stressful and overwhelming the challenge is to navigate the deep needs of broken children. Juan and Fermina asked if we would trust them as the house parents for our girls' home; they want to care for the girls and serve as a couple in our mission. What? Really? Wow! Ok, Uh, let me think...

The reality is that we have been praying for years that our children would love the Lord their God and serve Him, whether in their secular workplace or full-time ministry. We believe that God is raising up men and women of God here, and we've been seeing fruit in many of the young people in our ADVANCE program and we also have 3 teenagers in our





home now who have mentioned that they would like to serve overseas. But it seems that Juan and Fermina will be our first Missionary couple out of Casa de Mi Padre. After praying about it and contemplating with our board of directors and leader we believe that this could be a beautiful opportunity. Juan and Fermina know what it takes, the sacrifice and strain. They know similar hurts and pains that our children have experienced. They know our expectations of humility, repentance and godly living. They know how we have loved them and our expectations of a disciplined life. They know how we love, and they know how we discipline. And after many questions and time for them to think, they have shown that they have thought this through. They believe God would have them do this and that He will give them all grace and guidance. So, we ask that you join us in praying for our home, specifically for the girls' hearts as they go through hopefully their last transition in a long time. Pray that God would cover them in grace and hope in His goodness and love for them. Pray that God will edify and refine Juan and Fermina, that He would deepen their hearts after His, ask for wisdom to lead the girls and compassion to minister to their needs.

Juan and Fermina decided that they would like to get legally married in the second week of October, take a week for a honeymoon, start working as house parents in the girls' home when they return, and have their bigger wedding ceremony in November. I reassured them that we could manage in the girls' home if they wanted to take things slower. They have reassured me multiple times that they had actually been thinking about this, and they want to do it to help us and the girls. Wow, I can't believe the sacrifice and desire we have heard from them, but we humbly accept it! Now, Fermina lived in Casa de Mi Padre for 7 years and has lived 4 years with my family. Sarah and I have taken on the role of parents: for us it has been an

honor, and with honor comes responsibility. As long as any of our children follow our leading and instruction and try to honor God in their pursuit of marriage, we believe we have the responsibility to help bless their marriage. Would you please consider helping us bless them through a financial gift to go toward their ceremony and a nice honeymoon? They

have saved some on their own, but it doesn't cover what children with parents would be able to do. We are asking God for \$2,500 to be able to help with their marriage ceremony. Could you help make this day even more special for them, and help in place of parents who should have been there for them?

Well, that's all for now; please continue to pray on our behalf! We'll talk to you soon! In Christ ~The McCauleys and the kids of Casa

To Support by Mail:

Checks to "Child Rescue-Cole McCauley"

Mail to: Child Rescue – Cole McCauley 11201 Parallel Parkway Kansas City, KS 66109



To Support by credit card online:

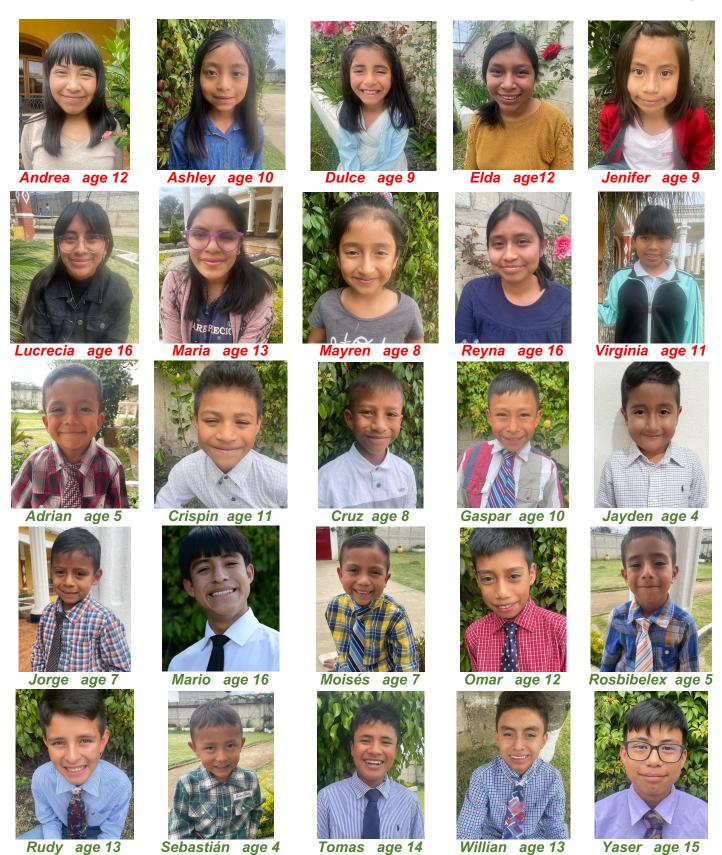
Go to www.savingkids.net
Click on the "Give" tab
Select *McCauley Ministry Fund*

To set up automatic Monthly support: Go to the online giving link or contact Maywood Community Church at 913-721-2760. We are a 501(c)(3) organization.



Give a Christmas present to the kids at the Casa de Mi Padre children's home in Guatemala!

Find our gift **registries on Amazon** by searching "Casa de Mi Padre", **Deadline**: Nov 8, 2024



Checks: Child Rescue - Cole McCauley,11201 Parallel Parkway, Kansas City, KS 66109. **Memo: CHRISTMAS**Online: https://savingkids.net go to the "Giving" tab, click on "Rent and special projects," type "Christmas" in the note

Giving opportunities

Christmas for Casa de Mi Padre

Find our gift *registries on Amazon* by searching "Casa de Mi Padre." The shipping address should automatically appear during your checkout process. Gifts will be sent to Ryan and Anna McDowell in St. Joseph, who will lead a mission group to bring the gifts to Guatemala and help put on our Christmas program. *Deadline for ordering gifts* = *Nov.* 8

We would also like to purchase bikes for 11 of the kids and a few other presents here in Guatemala. We estimate this will cost around \$1,800. If you would like to donate...

Checks: Child Rescue – Cole McCauley,11201 Parallel Parkway, Kansas City, KS 66109.

Memo: CHRISTMAS

Online: https://savingkids.net go to the "Giving" tab, click on "McCauley Ministry Fund," type

"Christmas" in the note section

Wedding of Juan and Fermina

Two of our young people in the ADVANCE program will be celebrating their *wedding in November*. Fermina lived in Casa de Mi Padre for 7 years and has now lived 4 years with my family. Sarah and I have taken on the role of parents; for us it has been an honor and with honor comes responsibility. As long as any of our children follow our leading and instruction and try to honor God, we believe we have the responsibility to help bless their marriage. Would you please consider helping us bless them through a financial gift to go toward their ceremony and a nice honeymoon? They have saved some on their own, but it doesn't cover what children with parents would be able to do. We are asking God for \$2,500 to be able to help with their marriage ceremony. If you would like to make this day even more special for them and help in place of parents who should have been there for them...



Checks: Child Rescue – Cole McCauley, 11201 Parallel Parkway, Kansas City, KS 66109.

Memo: WEDDING

Online: https://savingkids.net go to the "Giving" tab, click on "McCauley Ministry Fund," type "Wedding" in the note section

Construction project

We are still raising money to do Phase 1 of 5 to build the next family-style home for our children in the orphanage to live in. We now only need \$21,717 to be able to fund Phase 1, which will be groundbreaking and foundation work for this project. Little by little, we are making our way there, we praise God. Continue to ask that He would provide so that we may quickly complete all the construction on the new property, relocate everyone into their family-sized homes, and provide even better care for our children. Thank all of you who have already given, and soon enough we will see the fruit of your generosity!

If you would like to give...

Checks: Child Rescue – Cole McCauley, 11201 Parallel Parkway, Kansas City, KS 66109.

Memo: CONSTRUCTION

Online: https://savingkids.net go to "Giving" tab, click on "Construction Needs – McCauley"