

October 2024

A Beautiful Story

It was the last time we would all be together. I gave these final words to Juan. “The main thing is that you find Jesus, and one day when you have children you love them to Jesus. Give them as many hugs and kisses as I have given you. Teach them God’s word. After I gave these final words of counsel, Juan responded, “Papa Shane, I am so thankful you are in my life. I love you so much.”

Juan’s story has been a miracle. When he came to Casa De Mi Padre he was nine years old. He was the broken of the broken. For years he could not bring himself to believe God existed. It wasn't until he was 17 years old that he surrendered to Christ. I remembered the joyous day he returned home from a youth retreat. He couldn't wait to share the news with us.

When Fermina came to our home at 13 years old, her father had died under strange circumstances. Her mother had lived with a string of men who brought nothing but harm to her children. In time, four of her children came to live at Casa De Mi Padre. When Fermina came, God immediately began to work in her life and out of the rubble emerged a beautiful young lady who took Jesus at his word. Leaving our home, she chose to enter our Advanced Education program and began living with Cole and Sarah McCauley. They provided her with a home and family atmosphere as she continued to work on her education.

It became evident through the years that Juan and Fermina were fond of each other. Last year Juan came to me and asked if Fermina and he could date. Speaking with Cole, we prayed about this and then told them they were welcome to enter into a supervised courtship with the purpose of discovering if they should marry. They agreed. During that year they got to know each other better and were obedient to what we had asked. At the end of the year it was time for a decision. They said they wanted to spend their lives together. Last week they stood before a judge and were married civilly. On November 17th we will have the big celebration wedding. What God has done in their lives is a miracle! We are thankful for those who have prayed and invested in Juan and Fermina. Your investment will bear much fruit!

Important Upcoming Event: Every December we hold a Christian youth camp for our own children and invite other children from our community. I am sure many of you remember a time when God touched your heart at a Christian camp. Over the past 14 years, we have seen countless Guatemalan young people respond to Christ. This is your opportunity for just \$125 to make an impact for the rest of a child’s life. To give online go to: givetocasa.com, select “Give to Casa De Mi Padre” and scroll down to the “Special Projects-Child Rescue” donate button. Put in your information and remember to put “Camp” in the “Note” section, or you can send a check through the US mail to our “Special Projects–Child Rescue” account. Please put the word “Camp” in the memo line.

Construction Update: We have reached the halfway point in our fundraising for the second phase of building the Common House. More funds will be needed to complete it, but we have decided to charge forward with the funds we have rather than wait for the full amount. We will build the walls as far as we can and trust the Lord from there. Please consider a generous year-end-gift to help us get enough buildings on-site to bring all of our children to the new property. Thank you to all of you who have helped us get this far. By God’s grace we will finish the job!

We love you all,
Shane

