

October 2023



Dear Family and Friends,

“My soul magnifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior...”

Luke 1:46-47

“When I came to Casa De Mi Padre I learned that God loved me and He had a plan for my life. I didn’t know that before.” I remember the morning Lucrecia came to Casa De Mi Padre, over six years ago. She entered the property with Elda and a woman. The girls were crying and shouting out, “Mama don’t leave us.” It was a very emotional situation for everyone. After we officially received the girls we asked for some information about their stories. The government official said the girls had been suffering from neglect and the mother had been physically abusing both of them, but mostly to Lucrecia. Often Lucrecia would run away to a neighbor’s house to seek refuge.

After completing the official paperwork, the social worker invited the sobbing girls to go outside and say goodbye to the woman. The girls continued wailing. Even though there was abuse and neglect, the woman was all they had in this world. Finally the government worker separated the girls from the woman, grabbed her by the arm and led her out the gate. We were left to attend to the crying girls.

A few months ago we received a 10 year old boy from another children’s home. William had entered the children’s home after breaking his arm in a car accident and being admitted to the hospital. It became evident that he had been physically abused and had suffered from neglect from his alcoholic parents. By the time William reached 12 years old he was no longer eligible to stay at the home, so they called us. We had space and opened our doors to receive William. When he arrived he was withdrawn and quiet. He seemed very sad and afraid. I tried to get him to smile. After about two weeks he finally squeezed one out for me.

Every child that comes to us has a story. When I share the ministry and describe the labor of love we provide, the needs of our children, and what they have been through, I often say, “The children who come to us have been beaten, abandoned, abused, burned, and some of them sold.” They all have a story, but thank God it’s not the end of their story.

Enter Jesus! We believe the Words of The Living God can produce an amazing, life-changing opportunity for each of our children. Jesus is the medicine and if taken, he works 100% of the time. Massive doses of Jesus can bring transformative, everlasting healing to any soul. Just take the medicine. Take it in faith without reservation, and watch God do the miracle.

A few Sundays ago our children had been invited to participate in a special celebration at a church one of our staff members attends. The celebration is called “Children’s Day.” It is like Mother’s Day, but for kids. Our children were going to do a drama, special music, and give the message. We asked Lucrecia if she would give her testimony and the message. She said, “yes.” That took some guts. The church is one of the larger ones in our town. The special youth service began with several of the church’s youth doing a music-drama and performing songs. Our children’s drama was a depiction of the Prodigal Son. It was precious. Then Lucrecia’s time came. She was scared spitless. You could tell. It was her first time to do anything this big. As she began to speak she quickly gained the attention of the audience. She began to tell what her life was like before she came to Casa De Mi Padre. As she spoke the tears began to flow. But her voice remained strong. She told of the abuse and harm she and Elda had faced. It was tough.

Then she said, “When I came to Casa De Mi Padre, everything changed. In time I accepted Jesus and I learned some things.” Lucrecia continued, “Before I came to Casa De Mi Padre I didn’t know God loved me. I had never heard such a thing. I didn’t know God had a plan for my life. But I do now!” At that point in her message shouts of “Hallelujah” began to go up from the audience. Lucrecia continued to share that following Jesus is not easy. “Sometimes it is really hard to follow Jesus, but it is best.” She next shared several promises from scripture that had meant so much to her. The shouts of “Hallelujah” continued throughout her message. It was a clear expression of the hopes and dreams we have for all of our children. I was so proud of Lucrecia. The service ended with one of the youth of the church playing the violin and singing. It was beautiful. The service was personally inspiring for me. Pray for Lucrecia. Pray for her protection from evil and that she will stay strong in her faith in Jesus.

This past month we also had another fantastic spiritual breakthrough. We have had nine new children come into our home this year. I thought it was about time to give a salvation message and once again to offer the call to receive Christ for our children. I needed a powerful message to accomplish this.



Shane Sanderson
Executive Director
Santa Cruz del Quiche Guatemala

A few weeks ago I had the privilege of giving the message at my father's funeral. He passed into glory a few days after his 89th birthday. Dad had been the pastor of the Oak Grove Bible Church for over 47 years. God used my father's life to reach a lot of people through those years. Many of those people came to his homegoing celebration. It was glorious! I knew there would be people there who don't know the Lord. So I wrote a message titled, "This Is Reasonable."

The message was based on the reasonability of how the Bible answers all the basic questions of life. The Word of God gives a clear plausible account of the beginning of everything, where the earth came from and where we came from. The scriptures teach that in the beginning everything was perfect. Then the Word of God tells us the reason why our world became so screwed up. And then it explains how God provided the remedy found only in Christ. The Bible also says what will come to pass at the end of all human history and what eternity will look like. I believe the Bible answers all the important questions of life. And the explanations are true to life and reasonable. It was fitting to give the message of the Gospel at my father's homegoing and was well received.

Recently our city has been in a complete political lock-down and the roads have been closed. So we decided to have church at Casa De Mi Padre. I decided to use the same message I gave at my father's homegoing. It would work. After some singalong worship music I took the podium and let them have it, straight and hot and from the heart. I ended the service with a passionate plea to receive Christ. Two of our girls raised their hands that they wanted to do this. I called them to stand and come forward to go and pray with Kari. Kari is one of our missionary friends who joined us for the morning.

I gave a moment longer for any of our kids to respond. As I waited, I noticed one of our younger boys had his head down and was wiping tears away from his eyes. As the music played, I walked over and knelt down and asked William if he wanted to receive Jesus. He nodded his head "yes." I said, "come on." He got up and followed Kari and the girls to pray for salvation. WHAT A JOY! PRAISE THE LORD! Pray for William, Maria, and Virginia.

It is Time to Get Ready for CHRISTMAS AT CASA DE MI PADRE! We love Christmas at Casa De Mi Padre! The beauty, the spirit of generosity, and most of all the story of the **Greatest Gift of Love Ever Given - JESUS!** For many of our new children it will be the first time they have experienced what Christmas is all about!

To prepare for our **Christmas Kid's Celebration 2023** for the children of Casa De Mi Padre, **We Need You!** We have until **NOVEMBER 5th** to process donations in time to make this happen. To make it easy for you to purchase gifts for a child we have provided a gift registry on Amazon. Type the https links below into the browser on your computer or in your cell phone browser to order your gifts:

For the Girls Gifts: <https://amzn.to/3M59uIe>

For the Little Boys Gifts: <https://amzn.to/45zfako>

For the Big Boys Gifts: <https://amzn.to/3tx171z>

We are raising additional funds to purchase **bikes for 8 of our kids and clothing items to be purchased here in Guatemala.** The goal is \$1,800.

For Online Giving: Type this link: <https://bit.ly/46zGe4w> into your browser and it will take you directly to our website giving point, "Special Projects-Child Rescue." Please enter "Christmas" in the Note section provided.

For US Mail: Please make checks payable to Child Rescue and write "Christmas" in the memo line.

Mail to: Child Rescue Christmas, 11201 Parallel Parkway, Kansas City, Kansas 66109

We hope you enjoy being part of our kid's Christmas here at Casa De Mi Padre! It's the highlight of the year for our children, and we can't do it without you!

For the joy of seeing kids growing in their faith and watching others come to know the Lord for their first time, our souls "magnify the Lord and we rejoice in the God our Savior! The Lord has done truly **AMAZING THINGS IN OUR MIDST!**

Magnifying the Lord,

Love
Shane
Joseph Shane Sanderson

It is so exciting to see God at work in our children's lives!