

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

FATHER OF THE FATHERLESS AND PROTECTOR OF WIDOWS IS GOD IN HIS HOLY HABITATION. GOD SETTLES THE SOLITARY IN A HOME; - PSALM 68:5-6

It is so hard yet so beautiful to go through so many of the things we do with these children. I think that all of you who are parents can relate. As I think about what the Lord has put on my heart to share with you all this month, my heart hurts for many of our children...

Just today as I was defending a child at one of our court cases, I watched 9-year-old Cruz, who has grown so much. This is the second time that he has come to our home. Cruz is a true orphan: his mother and father have both passed away, and he had lived with his grandmother from his mother's side. She's an alcoholic, who would beat Cruz whenever she felt like it. She would take him around as she roamed late at night and would often bring her business back home as she was "taking care" of Cruz. After being rescued from his grandmother, he came to our home. Cruz was the most malnourished child I have ever seen. As skinny as a stick, doesn't do it justice. He was also socially awkward, impulsive, and unruly. At 7 years of age, he had not learned to control his bowels. In his first year staying with us, he became much healthier and did learn to control his bowels, even though that was quite the humbling and challenging experience. He still seemed to live in outer space and we just continued to love him and care for him. I remember always singing a certain song to him. "Cruz" in English means cross, and one of our favorite songs here in the home is called "The Cross." It proclaims, "The cross, the cross, tells us of love." So, I would frequently sing this over him in Spanish as I would greet him and hug or kiss him, only I would change the words a bit and sing, "the Cruz the Cruz, he speaks of love" as I would wrap him up and show him how much I loved him. I sure hope that is more than just a song I would sing over him, but that it would be who he becomes and what he truly loves and talks about!

Long story short, the court deemed that his paternal grandmother should take care of him. After 6 months with her, he returned to our home. The grandmother said that he was unruly, she was afraid the community would punish him, and she said that he continually wanted to return to Casa de Mi Padre. Other family members have said that the grandmother didn't want to deal with his difficulties. Regardless, Cruz was happy to return, and we were happy to receive him again. As I sat in the hearing today, again I thought about Cruz being truly orphaned having no family that wants him. Cruz is too young to emotionally and logically understand his situation, but this is not always the case with the kids we care for. We did have a young man in our first generation of children who was also completely alone and who truly hurt from the abandonment of being orphaned.

This other child for whom my heart terribly hurt was Gerson. Now, this is really the message I want to share about this month. I want to proclaim the goodness of the Father of the Fatherless. I want to express how near and intimate He is even when the situation doesn't seem like it. Gerson's story is an excellent example of the greatness of our Heavenly Father! How He moves His mighty hand to take care of those who cry out to Him, humble themselves, and claim Him as their God!

Gerson came to our home when he was 14 years old. He was and has been the oldest child we have ever taken in, but Shane felt like he was supposed to accept him. Gerson had grown up in orphanages for most of his life. He mentioned that in one of the homes prior to us he would constantly get beaten up, and they would take his food. He never really found his place until he came to our home. Still, while he was with us, although he felt secure and loved, he frequently had depressive episodes. At that time, I honestly couldn't understand it, but many years later and passing through some similar feelings, I now know how deep and hopeless we can fall into feeling. Thinking of him and all that he has gone through and how many people had gone through his life...New place to live, new people again, and again, and again...No one wanted him, he wasn't stable. He would frequently come to Shane or me and tell us how sad he was because no one from his family had ever looked for him. He would say that no one loves him. Obviously, we would tell him how much we really did, we

would give him hugs and share our affection. There were constant hurts for him, then we would do what we could, pray for him, and speak and show our affection however we could. Gerson still would have depressive episodes after he turned 18, moved on from Casa de Mi Padre, and was trying to figure out life with our help. Even early into his marriage.

As I constantly pray for whatever needs we have, I was praying about this month's letter. I continued to feel that He was emphasizing that He is The God of gods, the Lord of lords, the King of kings. "The Lord the Lord, the compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness, maintaining love to thousands, and forgiving wickedness, rebellion and sin. Yet he does not leave the guilty unpunished." - Exodus 34:6-7 The Great One, the Perfect One, Sovereign over all!!! Perfect in all His ways! The ways which are above our ways!!! The one who freed the Israelites from Egypt, the Awesome one Who came down to this painful earth and gave His life for sinners like us! Who suffered and was humiliated, who was pierced for our transgressions. He who was oppressed and afflicted, yet He opened not his mouth, because He knew what was to come, He knew the salvation He would bring to those who believe in Him! He was put to death, and He rose again three days later!!! It was no hoax; it was the power of the One True God, the Great I Am. He made a way for all sinners to be reconciled to Him, all who would repent of their sins and place their faith, only faith, in Jesus Christ, God Himself. O, what a God we serve! We are unworthy, so unworthy, yet He cares for us, and He calls us out. He opens our eyes; He shows us His beauty!!! O how beautiful is our God.

Ok, back to the letter... this Awesome God, He cares for the lowliest, and as I write this now I tear up. He is so much better than we are; He is so kind. O God how we love you! O God how we praise you! There is no one like you!!! Thank you, thank you!!

Ok, let's try this again.... back to the letter... Our Amazing God, He has proclaimed that He is the Father of the Fatherless, and we attest here at Casa de Mi Padre that his word is true!!!

After leaving the children's home, Gerson continued to grow, and over the next few years, while living at our family's home, he met a young lady named Ceci. Her mother, Juana, had begged us for work so she helped us around the house, and her daughter would come with her. Three years ago, Gerson and Ceci got married and started their life together. Bringing Gerson to Casa de Mi padre



was the first great mercy we saw God do in his life. After years of ups and downs, knowing we love him but still hurting and feeling his losses, the Lord brought a precious wife into his life. Still to this day, his wife helps Sarah around the house and with our kids. Her heart is tender, and she loves the Lord. We praise God that through our ministering and the hand of God, she came to faith and truly seeks God. She is a constant rock for Gerson. Not only that, but Gerson's now mother-in-law Juana, also grew up without her parents. Their whole family has loved Gerson as their own. I was pleased to hear a year after his marriage, Gerson referred to Juana as "mami." (It's doesn't sound as babyish in this culture.) It filled my heart with joy and contentment.

What made me want to write this letter was something that came to mind a few weeks ago. I haven't heard Gerson say than he's sad or that no one cares about him in a long, long time!!! O how thankful I am for what the Lord has done in him. He is truly the Father of the Fatherless. We did not do all of this; we only helped along the way. The Lord has been so kind to place Gerson perfectly into the home he needed. So, Gerson and Ceci both work, and I have seen Gerson really sacrifice to take care of Ceci. By the grace of God, he has been able to build his own home. It is truly something special for this young man, who was once orphaned, and was hurt and passed around for many years to be able to say that he owns his own home! It can only be by the hand of the Living God! Although it's not what we would imagine when we build in the USA, it's life changing to not have to rent and have something of their own. Ceci's parents bought about half an acre of land and split it up along with their 6 children. You wouldn't believe how they all fit into it until you saw it, but it's theirs, and they have done such a good job making it their home. Now, Gerson and Ceci are looking ahead to the future and praying that someday they will have children of their own! Please join us in praying that the Lord would bless them and continue guiding them in loving and serving Him, encouraging each other, and being faithful witnesses to those around them. We are so proud of Gerson! So thankful for Ceci and her family. And we praise God for how faithful and how awesome He has been! Praise our God!!! We'll talk to ya soon!



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Praises for God's blessings

- * 13 of the kids earned met their goals for the last month and got to go out to a special dinner! They worked hard on memorizing scriptures, practicing piano, and reading.
- Construction is progressing nicely on the next family sized house on the new property of Casa de Mi Padre.
- * We have a full schedule of churches to visit on our upcoming trip to the USA! We would love to see you at one one our events. Bring along a friend and introduce them to the mission of Child Rescue!

Prayer requests

* For safe travels on our trip. Pray that we would glorify God as we do presentations and that people would be inspired to be "on mission" in whatever way the Lord leads them. Please pray for health for all of our family during our travels.



Giving opportunities

- We praise the Lord for His continued provision for our needs! If you would like to assist our mission financially, you may help through one-time gifts or by clicking the option to become a monthly donor on the online giving link. Currently, only about 44% of our monthly mission budget needs are covered by monthly donors. We trust that the Lord will continue providing as He faithfully has through all our years on the mission field!
- If you would like to contribute toward the construction of the next family-style home we are building on the new property of Casa de Mi Padre:

Online giving: Go to savingkids.net, Click on the "Giving" tab Select "McCauley's Construction Fund". Checks: Memo: "McCauley Construction".

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 "Giving" tab

or "McCauley's Construction Fund"

To set up automatic Monthly support: Go to the online giving link or contact our secretary at Maywood Community Church at 913-721-2760. Child Rescue International, Inc is a 501(c)(3) organization.



Sunday, May 25

~ During the fellowship lunch following the 10am worship service which concludes around 11:30 am ~ Riverbend Bible Church

410 Commercial St., Atchison, KS

Sunday, June 1 ~ 10:00 am service First Christian Church of Lathrop 400 Center St. Lathrop, MO 64465

Sunday, June 1 ~ 6:00 pm Grace Calvary Chapel 5103 South 50th Street, Saint Joseph, MO 64507

Tuesday, June 3
6:00 meal provided by the church; 6:30ish presentation begins, followed by Q&A
Savannah United Methodist Church
103 North 4th Street, Savannah, MO 64485

Friday, June 6 ~ 7pm

Mustangs baseball game

McCauley kids plan to sing the national anthem and the 50/50 will benefit Casa de Mi Padre! Phil Welch Stadium, St. Joseph, MO 64503

Sunday, June 8 ~ 9:15 am service St. Paul United Methodist Church 18681 US-59, Country Club, MO 64505

Sunday, June 8 ~ 10:45 am service Francis Street First United Methodist Church 110 N 12th St, St Joseph, MO 64501

Sunday, June 15 ~ 9:30 am Sunday school hour (just Sarah)

CrossPointe Community Church

2501 S Belt Hwy, St Joseph, MO 64503

Sunday, June 22 ~ 10:15 am service **Sojourn Church** 1825 Savannah Ave., St. Joseph, MO, 64505

Sunday, June 22 ~ 1:30 pm presentation Frederick Boulevard Baptist Church 5502 Frederick Boulevard, St. Joseph, MO 64507