



Christian Light Foundation Costa Rica

EVANGELISM and DISCIPLESHIP

in the hard places of Costa Rica, Nicaragua, Honduras, and Venezuela

April, 2024

251st consecutive monthly newsletter

Looking back over nearly 22 years of foreign missionary work, we can only say with the psalmist...

**The Lord has done this,
and it is marvelous in our eyes.
Psalm 118:23**

We get asked often what life is like in the slums.

Mark shares his encounter with a new family at the feeding center. We are uncomfortable using names at this point, so we will go with this, including their ages: Girl16, Boy10, Girl8, Boy5. All four of them are very timid, Girl8 is very shy and barely speaks.

This family came to the feeding center for the first time a couple of weeks ago, and I sat down with them. They continued to come most days, and I had the opportunity to get to know them. Boy5 is in kindergarten. Girl8 is in second grade (one year behind), and Boy10 is in third grade (two years behind). Girl16 is not in school but is trying to take night classes at a nearby high school.

They live with their mom and don't know their dad except for Boy5, but he has not seen him for a couple of years. Girl16 had to drop out of school to walk the young ones to and from school every day. They live about a 40-minute walk from the feeding center, and the school is halfway between their house and the feeding center. A typical day involves walking to the feeding center for lunch and from there to school or coming to the feeding center after school and then home. This depends on whether they have a morning shift or an afternoon shift.

The mom does not work, but Girl16 says that they sometimes receive money from their grandfather, who is in the states. In the last few days, before this newsletter was sent in the mail, a different one came with cuts, scrapes, and even some blood. Boy5 came with his face bruised and puffy and a large cut on his arm. When I asked what happened every day, the answer was always the same: they fell playing outside. Girl16, who is not hurt, remains mostly silent.

The gospel has been shared with them, but there is no interest (at least yet) in discipleship. Boy10 and Girl8 can barely read and write, and they have no confidence in their education. They have yet to come to any other activities besides the feeding center. I showed them photos of this past Saturday in the Children's Club, and they said they would come next Saturday. I've invited Girl16 to the youth activities, but she has not come so far. They have never been to a church, so I explained what happens in ours on Sundays. I have invited them twice now. So far, they have not come.



These young men are starting discipleship book number 9 in one of our partner churches in Honduras. Pastor Ludy is not only discipling them but also using this as a critical part of their leadership development. Honduras continues to be a violent country where the vast majority of young men this age are killing, robbing, and doing other unspeakable things as they work their way up the gang leadership. Young men like those pictured are often threatened or attacked because they refuse to renounce their faith and leave the church. Please pray for these brave young people, and others like them, in many places where God has given us the privilege to proclaim His Word and come alongside pastors and church leaders as they disciple more and more people.

Please pray with us this month for the following...

... For this new family that Mark has befriended. May they come to know Christ and become His devoted followers. May God protect them.

... For the many teenagers in all four countries that are being discipled and encouraged to love and follow Jesus. May they be faithful in reaching their peers with the life-changing news of salvation.

... For large outreach events coming up: Soccer Tournament April 27, Children's Camp May 4, Talent Show May 25.

... For short term missions teams from SportsQuest (May) and Chapelgate Christian Academy (June).

... For continued favor in the schools as Satan viciously fights against us in this area.



MARK AND MEG KUZDAS

www.CLFCostaRica.com

CLFCR@hotmail.com

[iglesia_nueva_vida_los_guido](https://www.instagram.com/iglesia_nueva_vida_los_guido)

[Christian Light Foundation Costa Rica](https://www.facebook.com/ChristianLightFoundationCostaRica)

We are thankful for our prayer and financial partners. Please make checks payable to World Outreach Ministries and indicate that your check is for **Mark & Meg Kuzdas #171**.

World Outreach Ministries
P.O. Box B
Marietta, GA 30061

Donate ONLINE
(Use Card, Bank Info, or Crypto)
www.WorldOutreach.org/171