

Dear Pastor:

Greetings from Honduras! We are the Harrell family – Ken, Gricelda, Angelina, Victor, and Kenny (Victor and Kenny are now adults) – Assemblies of God career missionaries to Honduras for the past 17 years.

We will soon be returning to the States for one year, reporting back on our ministry progress to our supporters (much as Paul and Barnabas did in Acts 14:21-28) as well as introducing ourselves and our ministry to potential new supporters.

But before sharing some of the details of why we are writing you, we'd like to tell you about Miguel.*



Miguel And His Family

Miguel is eight years old. He lives with his family – his mother Maria and his two younger siblings, twins Hector and Rosa – in San Pedro Sula in the Central American nation of

* Miguel's story is a combination of the stories of many children in Honduras.

Honduras. Miguel's father tragically left the family three years ago after the twins were born. Since then, life has been very difficult for Miguel's family as they can barely make ends meet from day to day.

Miguel's life is one of the most tragic parts of the story.

Miguel Doesn't Attend School

Even though primary school in Honduras begins at the age of six, Miguel has never been to school.

Why? Because in order to attend school in Honduras, children are required to bring their own school supplies. But Miguel's mother can barely afford to feed her family on what she earns from her job at the textile mill, let alone buy school supplies.

So Miguel stays home, helping his grandmother with his younger siblings and with chores around the house while Maria is at work.

His grandmother tries to keep an eye on Miguel, but the twins are a handful and she is getting old, so Miguel is often left to fend for himself.

Miguel's New And Dangerous Friends

Sometimes, Miguel likes to play football in the streets outside his home and that's where he first met the soldiers of Mara Salvatrucha (MS13), the Honduran gang which controls the part of the city where his family lives.



Gang members befriended him and offered him the affection he wasn't receiving elsewhere. Since his father had left, his mother was working during the day, his grandmother was occupied with the twins, and he wasn't attending school, there was no one else to affirm him and guide him in life.

Soon, Miguel was spending more and more time with the gang and was only coming home at night to sleep. And over time, those nights at home started to become less frequent as this eight-year-old boy, who should have been learning and playing in a healthy environment, became more and more entrenched in the life of the gang.

All for a lack of school supplies.

What If?

What if one simple gift could revolutionize the lives of Miguel and his family? And what if Miguel's story was repeated 160,000 times over 12 years? 160,000 children, plus their families, rescued from street gang violence in what has been called both "The Murder Capital of the World" and "The Most Violent City in the World."

And what if your church had the opportunity to participate in changing the course of a nation through such simple gifts?

Our Ministry

We reach the children of Honduras – and their families – through:

- distributing gift ministry boxes (filled with school supplies, toys, hygiene items, clothing, etc.) and backpacks filled with school supplies – at our current rate of distribution, we have now ramped up this ministry to bless 30,000 children and their families per year;
- holding "Back to Classes with Jesus" kid's crusades (at which gift ministry boxes and backpacks are distributed); and,
- training children's pastors in Honduras (and Belize).



As we reach families through these programs for their children, there is also a need to plant churches in the inner cities, rural areas, mountainous villages, jungles, and islands of Honduras – to give those that are reached a new family and disciple them in their new life in Jesus. Over our 17 years of service in Honduras, we have planted 28 such churches.

We have also begun to install water filters in homes, schools, orphanages, and churches in Jesus' name – so that newly planted churches will grow in favor in the eyes of their communities.

How You Can Help

How can you and your people be involved in reaching the nation of Honduras?

- You can support us in prayer, asking the Lord for open doors to share in missions services and raise our budget. Missionaries have the privilege and responsibility of raising 100% of their monthly pledges and cash support, and you can participate with us in prayer as we face this challenge which can seem daunting but in which God is consistently faithful.



- You can schedule us to speak in a service, in an adult Sunday school class, at small group gatherings, to your youth group, in a children's class, etc. We would love to share our passion for the nation of Honduras with your people!
- You can choose to support us financially through a monthly commitment and/or one-time gift (our monthly budget for next term is \$_____ and our cash budget is \$150,000 – this cash amount will cover {add the areas of ministry your cash budget will go toward}_____). We know that's a large number, but reaching a nation through rescuing thousands of children from gang involvement is a large vision. By supporting our ministry financially, you will become co-workers with the truth in Honduras (3 John 6-7).
- You can send a team from your church to work with us in church construction, evangelistic crusades, child evangelism, medical brigades, children's events, humanitarian aid distribution, water filter installation, conferences and more. A short-term missions trip can often serve as a catalyst for future growth in our Christian life.



- If we have not met before, join us for a cup of coffee or a meal so we can get to know each other better.

For all you do for the cause of world evangelism and global church planting – and for your support of our family and ministry – thank you! Young children like Miguel and their families are being rescued from the clutches of the evil one because of your sacrifice!

We would like to call you in the coming weeks to explore the different ways we might be able to partner with you in helping your people grow in their walk with the Lord and reach the nation of Honduras at the same time. We look forward to speaking with you!

Sincerely and appreciatively,

The Harrells

P.S. If the Lord leads you to make a monthly pledge or give a cash donation right now, here's an online giving link - <https://giving.ag.org/donate/600001-264718?class=00>. Or you can send a check to 1445 North Boonville Ave., Springfield, MO 65802 (enter "for Ken Harrell AGWM #2647188" in the memo line of your check).