

SUMMER 2023

# HOPKINS HAPPENINGS

News from Jeremy and Esther

HOPE INTERNATIONAL MISSIONS | LATIN AMERICA



Dear Friends and Faithful Supporters:

The first weekend of May the church ladies were privileged to come together at a beautiful campground for a weekend retreat. Hearing the ladies' testimonies was wonderful as they shared struggles they were facing and how they planned to go home victorious. In addition to the spiritual successes we especially loved this opportunity for some of our ladies to have a weekend of relaxation away from the noise of the city. It honestly amazes us sometimes when we hear how hard these ladies work! The opportunity to have someone else cook for them and have uninterrupted time with God is a rarity they do not take for granted.

Another highlight of our spring (or Honduran summer) was leading the children's services at IHC. Our "archeological dig" allowed us to travel all over the world to search for evidence to prove the validity of the Bible. One of our favorite moments of the week was a special time of prayer when several children came forward and later testified to how God was helping them in areas like fear of the dark, bad attitudes towards their brothers and sisters, or struggling to fit in with their friends.

Several also testified to giving their lives to Christ. We were so thankful for the closeness of God's presence during our services and for Him speaking to the children as only He can!



Leading the children's choir at IHC

In addition to these larger events, we are enjoying settling into the daily routines of preaching, Bible studies, children's services, and more. We wish we could introduce you to all the beautiful people here who are quickly becoming our friends! The list of language blunders unfortunately continues providing much laughter. Two especially memorable ones were the Sunday Esther was teaching the children and told them in heaven there will be streets of *eyes* (ojo) instead of *gold* (oro). Or the one they will never let us forget that happened during Ladies' Retreat. In Spanish the word *seguro* is used quite frequently as a way of saying "Are you sure?" One morning while driving Sister Rosa Maria to get breakfast, she waited quite some time before getting out of the car. She repeatedly asked, "Seguro?" to which we reassured her there were no cars coming and even got out to show her it was indeed safe. After a moment of confusion we realized the word *seguro* is also the word for *lock*, and she was just waiting for us to unlock her door!

To finish up the month of May, we traveled back to the States for another quick visit and for Jeremy's five-year cancer checkup. As many who have walked the cancer journey know, five years is a big milestone. At the appointment the oncologist gave us positive news once again and reassured us the chance of recurrence is a less than 1 percent. We are thankful for another good report from the doctor!

## PROJECT NEED **Thank you for your faithful giving!**

As we plan toward our installation as pastor at Las Uvas, one of our first goals is to do some remodeling of the church. This includes painting the inside and outside, getting a new sign, redecorating, and some other minor things. We would love to raise \$3,000 to do this. If you feel it on your heart to give toward this project, you can give online or by mail. Just mark all donations, "Las Uvas Project." Thank you so much for your consideration in this endeavor!

## PRAYER NEEDS **Thank you for praying for us!**

We cannot be effective in our ministry without a team of people regularly taking us to the Father. As the Lord lays it on your heart, please pray for the following needs:

- God would empower us as we are installed as the pastors at the church in Las Uvas.
- God's wisdom as we plan VBS services to hold in several churches over this summer.
- God would save souls and deepen the spiritual walk of the saved at the church in Las Uvas.





Ladies' Retreat 2023



Learning new choruses together



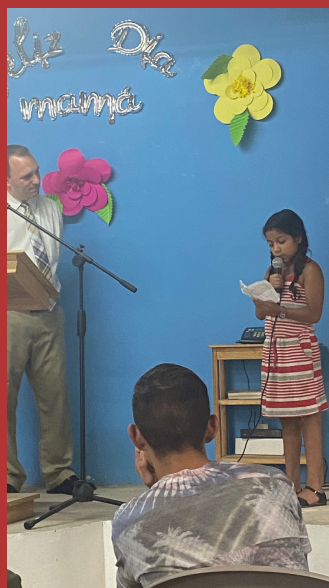
Chapel of the Children at IHC



Enjoying crafts and games



The kids laughing at the puppet



The children enjoying participating on Mother's Day



Special Mother's Day service

Watching how God has used Jeremy's story of cancer to reach people here in Honduras has been beautiful. We often remark that every single person we meet here has a tragic story to tell. It has been a great form of connection to share with them how God can be with us during difficult times and how we serve a God who walks with us even through our storms.

Thank you again for your faithful support. We are truly blessed with each of you, and we know our work here represents an amazing team of supporters back in the USA!

With blessings,

*Jeremy and Esther Hopkins*

Jeremy and Esther Hopkins | Proverbs 3:5-6

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