

Project Bethany

April 2024

March is a month of celebration for us. We recently celebrated 39 years of marriage! We took a day-trip to a little town nestled in the Talamanca mountain range called San Gerardo de Dota. It is located in a cloud forest and the scenery is simply stunning! We enjoyed God's creation and were beyond grateful for the years the Lord has given us together. It was definitely a great place for an anniversary get away!

On March 1st, our social worker Dayanna solicited a meeting with us and our administrator. She has a passion for special needs children and their families. She shared that an opportunity had presented itself to work at a special needs school that is a model in this country. She was being considered as the top candidate by the Ministry of Public Education. So, she has turned in her letter of resignation. She has been with us for several years and has been an excellent employee. We were sad that she will no longer be with us, but grateful that the Lord is leading her into new adventures!

That very day, we began the search for a new social worker. After announcing on Facebook, we

received 120 resumes! As we narrowed down the list, one came to the forefront. We decided to interview Alejandra first. She met the qualifications that we were looking for: she is the daughter of pastors, she is a mature wife and mother, she has ten years of experience working with another Christian ministry, and she is solid in her faith and walk with Jesus. It was a unanimous decision! Alejandra began working on March 11th and was trained for two weeks before Dayanna left the ministry. We are thankful for God's provision, and we are confident that God will use our new team member to bring fresh eyes, creative ideas, and God-given passion to our team. Welcome Alejandra to the Project Bethany team!



Alejandra Castro



800.859.4578

www.cornerstoneinternational.org

CI: giving@cornerstoneinternational.org

Intimacy with God

God desires intimacy with us. **James 4:16** says, "Draw near to God and He will draw near to you." Who draws near first? We do. God is always present, but we must be willing to put aside our agenda and come close to Him. In Genesis 18, the Lord decides that He will destroy Sodom and Gomorrah. Before he does, He says to Himself, "Should I hide my plan from Abraham?" Because the Lord had an intimate friendship with Abraham, He shared the secrets of His heart with him. On the other hand, we see Lot who is completely unaware of the actions that the Lord is going to take on the very city where he lives. One man, through the act of drawing close, knew God and the other did not. Where do you stand today? **Psalm 25:14** tells us that, "The friendship of the Lord is for those who fear him..." Won't you draw near to Him?



"I will give them a heart to know Me, that I am the Lord. They will be My people, and I will be their God, for they will return to Me with all their heart."

Jeremiah 24:7 NIV



Draw near to God, and He will draw near to you.

JAMES 4:8

From time to time, we like to take each mom out on a one-on-one basis. It gives her an opportunity to get out of the Project Bethany bubble and enjoy a little grown-up time without her children.



(L to R) Rachel, Floribeth (Biblical counselor), Nathalie, Josseline, Laura, Allison, Hillary, and Keytin.

It has been nice to hear how each is being impacted in different ways by this ministry. They all have their challenges, but that is part of the process. You are a part of the change that is happening in this place. We appreciate your partnership in this mission. Your generosity is impacting generations. Thank you!

Stephen, Georgiana, & Luke Thomas

Phone #: (956) 287-3131

Email: sgthomas65@outlook.com

Web: www.abrahamproject.org

Blog: www.abrahamproject.org/the-abraham-project

Construction on our new office building is moving along. Last month, we received a short-term mission team from Joshua Expeditions. It was a group of 47 youth/leaders from Houston, TX. They helped us install safety fencing along the creek's edge, haul concrete block, mix concrete, and cut weeds along the creek-line with machetes. It was a blessing to have strong arms and backs helping our construction guys throughout the week.

As you can see, the internal walls on the second floor of the building are going up. After Holy Week, the crew will be pouring concrete headers in order to start putting on the roofing structure. We are hoping to get the building under roof before rainy season begins in May. We are trusting God it will all work out for good!



Financíal Contributions

For those who desire to contribute financially, please follow instructions per your designation preferences:

For the Thomas Family

Make checks payable to Cornerstone International and note in the memo section "**Thomas-Costa Rica**"

for our personal support,

Mail checks to the following address:

Cornerstone International

P.O. Box 192

Wilmore, KY 40390

Donate Online: cornerstoneinternational.org/thomas

For Project Bethany - Single Moms

Make checks payable to Abraham Project, Inc. and note in the memo section "**Project Bethany**" for operating expenses "**Phase II**" for construction costs.

Mail checks to the following address:

Abraham Project, Inc.

7904 N. 19th St.

McAllen, TX 78504

PayPal: www.abrahamproject.org/take-action