



A MOTHER'S FAITHFULNESS

Lidia Mendoza Rodriguez, from the Dominican Republic, is a mother who sought the best for her family. She gave birth to a sickly child and cried when she could not afford to buy him medicine. Her husband worked diligently as a barber, but funds were short.

Lidia believed that if she could attend university to obtain a career, she could provide what her family needed; she started but dropped out after having another son. She then began selling goods in front of their home. Lidia expanded her marketplace and sought bigger venues with a broader range of goods to sell. Then, the Covid pandemic came and there was no business.

Today, her son is now well educated and works as an administrator at our mission school in the Dominican Republic. He encouraged his mother to pray for God to provide a place for her to work at our school. Her son is also responsible for the school cafeteria, which needed a motivated person with heart, discipline, and love to care for the students. God provided, and Lidia is a joyful, fully-employed woman, blessed of God and working with the son for whom she sacrificed to prepare for his future.

Lidia saw the fruit of her labor and was rewarded by her years of faithful devotion to the Lord and to her family. ~Jeanne DeTellis Loudon



Top: Lidia Mendoza Rodriguez enjoys listening and interacting with our students.

Middle: Lidia's prayers and tears for her son, Jendry Jose Checo Mendoza, gave her a harvest.

Bottom left: Lidia serves our students with a motherly heart as if each and every one of them were her own.

Bottom right: Jendry Jose Checo Mendoza is our assistant director and cafeteria manager at Colegio Nueva Vida.

TRAINING TO SAVE LIVES

This school year we incorporated more staff training days to help our employees learn new skills. Our most recent training was basic first aid including CPR, the Heimlich maneuver, and seizure management. Our staff really enjoyed the training and were thankful to learn these very important skills.

We provided a medical simulator for the staff to practice CPR, but a few of them were hesitant to try. Irma Mendoza, one of our preschool teachers, was one of those, but she eventually agreed to try it. Little did she know that five days later those skills would be used. One evening on her way home, she came across a man who had been in a bad accident. She quickly jumped into action and used the skills she had learned in the class. Irma was able to determine that he was conscious and the appropriate manner in which to treat him while waiting for the ambulance to arrive. Although it was a terrifying experience, she is thankful that she was able to take the class, overcome her fears, and help save a man's life.

~Heather Williams Katz



All of our employees had an opportunity to practice CPR in order to be prepared for emergencies.



Teacher Irma is thankful for the training she received and feels prepared to help others when in need.



Trusses, which will be covered with metal roofing, are going up on new Tom Gateau kitchen.



Tom Gateau students enjoying a break. School lunch is a tremendous blessing to them.

TOM GATEAU KITCHEN

Our Tom Gateau school is in the mountains off of the Leogane Plain—serving 319 students from preschool through 9th grade. Many children walk a good distance to school on mountainous paths from other small villages or home clusters. In 2011, New Missions adopted the church led by Pastor Vernete Joseph and his wife Gysele Fabrine. A church and classroom building were constructed after the 2010 earthquake, but up until now the school food has been cooked on charcoal under a thatched temporary structure.

Thankfully, a new school kitchen is nearing completion. Charlie and his construction crew are also on location working on a new roof for the building. It has a rear storeroom for the sacks of school food, and a front kitchen with a serving window opening onto a small, covered porch. Large propane burners will be purchased and installed very soon. Cool, rainy days can be common in the mountains, so this kitchen is a blessing not only for the cooks but the entire school. Thank you to the individual donors and Liberty Church in Dublin, Georgia, for funding this project! ~Rachel DeTellis



LOVE IN ACTION

Ministry takes proximity. However, sometimes you feel far away from what's happening. Behind our home office walls, we answer calls and see the letters sent to our students from their sponsors. Our hearts leap with joy when we hear the stories and see the photos of lives being changed.

High school students in Haiti enjoyed the delivery of special shoebox gifts packed specifically for their age group. While we take a new toothbrush for granted, having a new one in Haiti is a special treat.

Our elementary kids love drawing and coloring for their sponsors. Recently, students from our school in L'Acul, Haiti, enjoyed drawing hearts and Bible verses to share how much Jesus loves the little children. Your prayers and encouraging letters to our students are never to be underestimated.

A full belly makes a happy child as our students step into their classrooms to enjoy lunch together. Representing the love and generosity of our sponsors, we see the meals we prepare as warm hugs of love to our kids.

No matter where you live, or how far away from Haiti or the Dominican Republic you call home, the hearts of our students see and hear your love loud and clear. Thank you for helping to provide lunch, love, and gifts to our students.

~Tim DeTellis

MORE ONLINE AT NEWMISSIONS.ORG



NEW MISSIONS PODCAST
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Top: Our high school students are filled with gratitude for their new shoebox gifts.

Bottom left: Lunch at school is a gift for each of our students, and a blessing to their continued health.

Bottom middle: Cases of shoeboxes in our Haiti warehouse awaiting distribution to schools.

Bottom right: Jesus loves me this I know...for my Bible and teacher tell me so.



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PLANT FOR OTHERS

Back in 1983 when my parents moved our family to Haiti, I remember something unique about my dad. He loved to plant trees. This was especially important since Haiti was deforested, as their number one fuel was charcoal. The process to make charcoal involved cutting down a tree and then burning the wood into charcoal. The first trees I remember us planting were along the stream in the village of Neply. Today, those trees have grown mature and provide shade to the families who live there.

Who are you planting trees for? The book, *The Man Who Planted Trees*, is the fable of a man nicknamed the “shepherd tree-planter,” who planted ten thousand oaks. He planted them to reforest a desolate valley in the foothills of the Alps. These trees grew and became the catalyst of an entirely new industry for the next generation in that area. Today, we can plant trees both literally and figuratively.

A pastor friend of mine, Ryan Alonso, from Lineage Church in Cocoa, Florida, has some mango trees in his front yard. One day he came to visit me with a bag containing three mangoes as a gift. Two of them were re-gifted to a neighbor of mine and one I enjoyed myself. But then I thought, what if I planted this mango seed? So, I went on YouTube and searched how to plant a mango tree from a mango pit. I learned that I needed to take the husk and put it in the sun and let it dry for three days, and then carefully remove the inner seed of the husk and plant it. Daily I watered this newly planted mango seed,

checking on it like a newborn baby. And then, one month later, the first sprout broke up from the soil. I was ecstatic.

I discovered from this experience a five-step process that I use as a guide for how I want to plant trees in my life, both physically and relationally. First, I pray: “Dear Lord, this is from you: this person, this seed of a tree or opportunity, may I be a good steward of what you have entrusted to me.” Second, the planting begins. This is the process of preparing the ground and time we have together with

proper soil, focusing on what’s needed to develop a healthy environment for growth. Third, I cultivate. This is not an overnight success. Pulling weeds, watering, even having long conversations with someone who is going through a hard time is

cultivating. Cultivate a healthy environment for growth. Number four is growth...and it’s a true gift. I do not expect growth; I trust God for the growth. “So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God, who makes things grow.” (1 Corinthians 3:7) Then, as the harvest comes, give thanks. During the process of waiting, patience is essential. I know that I will need to be patient for up to four years before I see fruit from my new mango tree. “Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.” (Galatians 6:9)

Today, where will you plant trees? Pray. Plant. Cultivate. Grow. Harvest. ~Tim DeTellis

CULTIVATE A HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT FOR GROWTH.

Jesus told a parable about a farmer sowing seed (Matthew 13:1-23). Some fell on the path and birds ate it. Some fell on rocks with no soil. Some fell on areas with little soil and were scorched because the plants had no roots. Other seed fell on good soil where it produced a crop of great abundance. Today, where are you sowing your seeds?



Tim DeTellis
timothy@newmissions.org

P.S. Stay faithful to plant seed daily, and trust the Lord to bring the harvest in His timing.

