

Heaven's Reach Ministries

News Letter July 08

Mission Honduras

Showing, Teaching, and Releasing Gods Love

The Opportunities are Endless

- **Seeds of Hope:** Planting the seed beds for the Hospital Garden.
- **TechEd:** Helping the local schools achieve their goals of teaching computers.
- **Learning the Language and Culture:** The adventure never stops!



Seeds of Hope: This is nutrition project at the hospital. Following the team last month that cleared the new portion of land, we received seeds (tomatoes, squash, lettuce, cabbage, carrots, peppers, and onions, pumpkins) to plant. The sponsored students who helped us last fall clear the first section of land volunteered to help plant the seeds. God is really working in the lives of these young people. They did not work for money or even praise but for the Lord. **More on page 2.**

TechEd: A dream to accelerate the local education through the use of computers while injecting the Word of God into the curriculum. We went to the local elementary school the third time I visited Honduras and found that they had a computer lab given by the Japanese government. I visited the school again this month to find that the money for a teacher and the maintenance for the lab had run out. All they could do is push them to the side and hope someday someone would come to help. **More on page 2.**



Learning the Language and Culture is an adventure! In the states, I often find communication problems. I remember having a conversation before church about going out to eat after church. We talked about several options of restaurants and times. After church we went right to Acambaros with the group. Some how, not everyone showed up. Turns out that three people thought the group was going to Applebee's, a great place but not where the group went.



Now think about the group speaking Spanish and you trying to tell them, in your second language, where to meet. Just imagine the miscommunications. Then on top of that, there are some words in Spanish, like in English, that sound very similar yet are very different. The words for man and hungry sound remarkably similar to each other and the words for woman and better. We are beyond it now but even buying things at the market was a challenge at first. **More on page 2**



God Bless you all!

Dean & Melissa Lowman

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TechEd continued: I offered to help fix them so the principal gave me the key to the lab and I spent the next few days cleaning, connecting, and repairing the computers. I made a friend while I was there, Edwin,(in the photo to the left) and he helped me. Now they have a lab they can use again. I come from the computer industry with some experience in the classroom. When I first came, I was curious to see if the local schools had computers or wanted any. I did a survey of the schools and found that most all of them aspire to have a computer class. Some of the private schools had a lab that was old and out of date, but they had one.



The public schools however, had one or two computers mostly not working. In addition, those who did have a functioning computer were trying to rotate the children through to teach 45 kids with one or two. I want to instruct existing teachers to teach computers in the classroom. I am looking for companies in the US that are updating their systems to donate the old computers so we can get them here. By creating and teaching the curriculum to the teachers, we will be able to put the Word of God in the curriculum. It is a great opportunity! The kids that know something about computers will find it easier to get good jobs.

Seeds of Hope continued: this is the first part of the project. The next is to teach basic nutrition. What



vitamins are, and what foods contain them. The average person in the mountains knows little about these things. Not only do they not have a balanced diet; they have no means of obtaining one. For each family that participates in the program, we plan to give a packet of vegetable seeds and teach them how to grow them. In addition, teach them why they need to eat a variety of vegetables. This would give them availability

to better nutrition. Most mothers do not produce much milk for their babes because of malnutrition. Also we hope some will give the information to the villages where they live and have some above their own needs to sell/trade to their neighbors.



This incredible picture is of a baby from the mountains discovered during a medical clinic a few weeks ago weighing only four pounds at five months old. The mother with no knowledge of nutrition was not producing sufficient milk to achieve normal development. With a visit to the hospital, the baby gained two pounds in a week and a half. It is people like this we want to help.

Learning the Language and Culture continued: It is an adventure to learn Spanish and at the same



time learning the culture. Have you ever worked somewhere and needed to know the level of education of the clients? Melissa had to ask every patient that came to the hospital she worked at and it turns out that most of the Latinos responded sixth grade. This is odd you would think until you realize that it is free to go to school up though the sixth grade. But after that, they have to pay to go. Ever wonder why those Latinos play their music so loud? We are accustomed to the police coming if it gets too loud, right. Well here, there are no noise ordinances. In addition, the houses are not that close in the country. There are many cultural differences and we

are learning how to relate and understand the people. In addition, Melissa has it even harder. She has to learn the medical terms in Spanish!