## La Tronquera Mission Adventures

Dear Friends,

In December 2019, Ray and I stepped out in faith and trust to test our travel skills as we flew to La Tronquera in Nicaragua. What would this trip teach us? What exciting things would we be able to share with our AWA family?

Amazing God-changes are happening in Nicaragua with the new mission base project manager, Enrique Olguin-Sanjuan. He is a new addition to the AWA team.

Ray and I left Kelowna, BC and headed to Vancouver, BC, then on to our destination. We met up with Enrique in Mexico City, Mexico, where Enrique is from. We were thankful to be with our trusted friend. We only speak English and Spanish is what is truly needed to communicate in this region of Nicaragua.

The long drive from Puerto Cabezas to the La Tronquera mission is on a very bumpy road which has three military stops along the way. It gives an opportunity to talk to the guards on duty and we hope we hope to be let through. We are calm and positive and they seem to respect the presence of the mission here. We remind ourselves daily that we are guests on the Miskito land and we greatly appreciate the

opportunity to spread God's word and provide the needed medical transportation.

Staying in the Miskito guest house and in the main house is not as rough as you may imagine. There is a normal washroom, sinks and yes, even blessed with a washing machine and fridge. This is a luxury that not many homes here have, and I am very grateful for this!

Our first morning brought refreshing rain, a promising rainbow, horses wandering outside and the sounds of many parrots, budgies, other pretty birds, and the river. We walked all over the mission checking on homes, the plane, truck, tool shed, well, power room, garden and river that winds through the land. We took stock

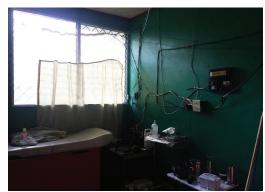














of supplies and took notes on how to run the mission. We met Ervin and Dom Perez, whom are both dedicated long term employees and are needed at the mission to keep any shenanigans or theft at bay.

On Sabbath we walked across the airfield and over the bridge to the local SDA Miskito church. We met with Elder Johnny and his wife, Marjorie, who teaches the children's Sabbath School. I attended the Sabbath school class and gave her the felts I found at the mission so she could continue teaching the children the weekly stories of Jesus' love. We were welcomed with generous handshakes and a reassurance from us to establish a new friendship with the community and for them to always look to Jesus as missionaries come and go.

Elder Johnny taught the lesson in Miskito and Enrique was asked to preach the sermon for worship service. He spoke in English, Spanish, and Miskito, which is similar to Spanish so we could all benefit. What a gift Enrique has to be able to share in three languages! This is why God has called him to be here in Nicaragua... the children added to the service by singing and sharing a weekly practiced memory verse all with happy smiles!

The mission sells propane and nails and always has a local

visitor in need of something. We did our best to listen to those needs and share the Spirit of God with each visitor. We met with the local nurse, Leolon, at the local Miskito clinic in La Tronquera. The clinic is in need of updating in medical supplies, needs a daily cleaning, and is sorely lacking an onsite well, updated bathroom, beds in proper sterile conditions, a kitchen stove, and sinks. Equipment is brought back and forth sterilized from Waspan. There is a basic pharmacy which is always in need of restocking.

The journey continues with the needs of the project. Praise God for faithful supporters who will help these people and show the love of Jesus consistently and lift them in prayer. God bless you!

> Thank you so much, Ray and Julie Young

