

What an exciting opportunity to spread the Gospel!

We came into a small village Wednesday afternoon, into what is best known as the Miskito house, the guest house at the mission base called LA TRONQUERA. My utmost desire here is to continue with the work of service. I got a quick and loaded overview of the ongoing activities, and after quickly taking notes, the Sabbath was upon us. We went to the local church, LTSDAC, La Tronquera Seventh-Day Adventist Church. Two days prior, we met Elder Johnny who shook my hand and before he let it go he said, "You better be ready to preach! Are you prepared?" My answer was, "I'm not a preacher by training, but God will fill me with His words on what to say". I had led out in many small groups of study and my custom is to ask God to help me speak of His goodness and purpose. I prepared a message as Elder Johnny was teaching Sabbath School and I felt God's Holy Spirit impress me to preach about the Beatitudes.

The elder spoke about the different missionary families that had made their way to La Tronquera and have come and gone and how their hearts had been invested in those relationships.

When it was my turn was to speak, I titled my sermon "You are Blessed." "Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted. Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth. Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled. Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God. Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God. Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake. Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven: for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you" Matthew

I delivered this passage in three languages, Miskito, Spanish and

5:3-12, KJV.









English. I asked, "Do you know that you are blessed?" I asked it to individuals, explaining how one family, and a second family and a third and now a fourth family have moved to be present and carry on with the mission work. But one thing remains and only One remains the same, Jesus Christ is the same, yesterday, today and forever. Hebrews 13:8. If you keep your eyes on one person, or family or the second or third, you are looking at man. But keep your eyes on the only One that remains - He is faithful, stable, tried and true. Then you will know that regardless of circumstances, people or feelings, you are on solid rock. My job, the job of anyone who preaches the Gospel is to point to Jesus, the Faithful One.

"So now... do you know that you are blessed? You woke up this morning, you have a roof over your head, you came here on Sabbath morning, you have a room where you can worship God, you have clothes, still I want to ask you, DO YOU KNOW THAT YOU ARE BLESSED? and do you know why you are blessed? It's not because of your efforts, your obedience, your talents or faithfulness. NO, YOU ARE BLESSED BECAUSE OF LOVE, AND HIS NAME IS JESUS CHRIST. "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not His Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through Him might be saved" John 3:16-17, KJV.

So I ask you again, Do you know that you are blessed and do you know why? The answer is because of LOVE, and HIS NAME IS <u>JESUS</u>. He is the reason I'm here with you

- because Jesus loves me and He loves you. DO YOU KNOW IT? DO YOU BELIEVE IT? WILL YOU TELL OTHERS ABOUT HIM?"

My answer is, "Yes I do, and I will." That's why I'm here in front of you, leaving my old life behind, to tell you about how blessed you are because of LOVE.

God bless you all, Enrique Olguin-Sanjuan



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