



Abundant Life, by Caleb



Some weeks ago, we were invited as a family to have a dinner meal at the home of our friends Beni, Julissa, and their two boys Lucas and Dillan. Towards the end of the evening, we were talking about our plans to help the Miskito people of Nicaragua learn to recognize the abundant resources of their country so they could make better decisions of what they farm and how they eat. Julissa

said, “Oh yeah, like FARM STEW,” and she began to write out the acronym on a notecard and explain what it meant: F=farming, A=attitude, R=rest, M=meals, S=sanitation, T=temperance, E=enterprise, W=water.

Immediately I had an overwhelming sense from what I believe was the Holy Spirit that this was the very resource we needed. I reached out to grab the notecard and blurted out, “I need that!” After investigating on the internet, I further learned that FARM STEW is a ministry founded by an inspired woman named Joy Kauffman who has had a huge impact on the malnourished people of sub-Saharan Africa. Several years ago, she began training community leaders in the different people groups of Uganda, Tanzania, and South

Sudan. These new leaders then teach their own people how to provide for their own nutritional needs through farming and improve themselves economically, all while learning the truth of the Gospel for their eternal life! Talk about the perfect combination of being a fisher of man who is proverbially teaching a man to fish rather than just giving him a fish!

Well, a couple weeks ago, my friend Beni and I went to Paonia, Colorado where the staff of FARM STEW USA combining forces with Acquainting Agriculture taught us practical farming skills that can be applied to our schools and churches here in America. The manuals they have developed are simple, yet complete, and I believe they are God-inspired. I feel so blessed to have been able to take the training and for the eternal friendships made there before we head off to Nicaragua. You will surely hear more about how we will collaborate with them in the future. In John 10:10, Jesus says, “The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have *it* more abundantly.”

If you are curious about using farming as a ministry tool in your community’s church, school, or missionary endeavors, please check out the following ministries.

- FARM STEW USA: (815) 200-4925 • www.farmstew.org,
- Acquainting Agriculture: (269) 615-6027 www.acquaintingagriculture.org.

Seek First the Kingdom of God, by Josh

I'm here sitting in bed with my wife thinking about the last few months and the whirlwind of events God has allowed us to experience. We certainly have had our share of ups and downs, but strangely enough we feel very blessed. One thought that keeps coming into my head is that God is trying to adjust my priorities, my focus, despite the chaos that tends to fill my days. Jesus wants us to see the bigger picture of what is happening in and around us. I believe ultimately God desires for every follower of Christ to realize His presence and the impact He wants to make in our lives and the lives of others.



Let me explain my experience a little. Our immediate and extended family are wrestling with multiple issues and as we work through them at times, we see ourselves and those around us at our worst and realize just how human and quite bluntly how sinful we really are. I work at what is going to be a publishing house that will be printing, oddly enough, "The Great

Controversy" in very large numbers. As I think about the book to be printed and what it represents in the world today – good and evil battling for our allegiance, I can see how the great controversy is impacting the chaotic events in my life as I juggle responsibilities between the publishing house, tree cutting and care taking for my grandparents. I work at the publishing house three days a week and the other days I work doing tree work. One thing is becoming clearer, it's only as we "seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness" do we have any true peace.

As life gets uncertain and we can't seem to have a grip on events and unplanned perplexities arise we must take a



breath and tackle one thing at a time, maintaining a steady trust on Jesus and not forgetting to make time for peaceful moments with God as a family, and as individuals. It's only as we keep our outlook right that we can help anyone or even survive mentally ourselves. Without our faith in God, we would be lost.

Our plan was to be in Nicaragua right now serving the Miskito people through aviation. We know however that God is working in us to perfect our characters for His mission in Nicaragua. God's plans are always perfect and it's our job to bloom where he plants us. Following God is exciting as it takes faith and obedience to experience Him to the fullest. Will you join me as we kneel and ask God to show us the mission He has for us today, this week and this month?

Thank you for your support and prayers!

God bless you!

Your AWA Nicaragua Mission Families

Your AWA Mission Families preparing to serve in the AWA Nicaragua Mission Project:



**Josh and Yosiday Fix
Caleb and Isaac**



**Caleb Runne,
Glenda Escudero,
Jordana and Enoch**



PROJECT NEEDS:

Consistent monthly donors to fund the Nicaragua project.



PRAYER REQUEST:

That the borders stay open as the Runne family prepares to go to Nicaragua.

Pray for Josh, Yosi, and the boys, as well as their grandparents as they live and grow together.