## Nicaragua Mission Project Update



## The Children Came Into the Ark, 2 by 2

The Miskito people generally go as far as gradeschool, and few finish high school, resulting in a child-like perspective into their adulthood. With this in mind, we felt inspired to share the gospel in a way that attracts both the children and the adults at the same time. Two Sabbaths ago we began with the theme of "God's Word." Glenda initiated the service with a scripture song she composed of Psalm 119:105, followed by a story directed to the children. Then she gave the children drawings which Jordana and Enoch had made on the theme that they could color during the rest of the service. Lastly, it was my turn to share a message that would equip our members to share their faith with others using simple, poignant verses. All the members and children were engaged and enthusiastic.

Last Sabbath we were supposed to have Communion service. The regional pastor was going to come

officiate, but Glenda and I sensed that we should prepare the next theme, just in case. Some of you may have heard about the tropical storm, Julia. The meteorologists were predicting it would hit Nicaragua that Saturday night. Sabbath morning, we looked outside and saw clouds, but as we ate breakfast and prepared for church, the sun came out and a gentle breeze blew. We praised God, knowing that because everyone walks to church from their homes, if the weather is bad, people just stay home.

We were disappointed as we arrived because no one had opened the church yet. Shortly after, the deacon arrived and unlocked the door, but more disappointment hit when we were told that the pastor wasn't coming and there would be no communion. I began to stew a little with anger. The weather was beautiful, but people stayed home, supposedly anticipating the tropical storm; the grape juice for the service had not been purchased, even though I had reminded the deaconess 3 times that week; and



the pastor had not been given confirmation to come officiate. Our family, the deacon, and his wife were the only people at church, what was the point?

Immediately, something miraculous began to happen. From the window I could see a group of children approaching, beautifully dressed for church. Who were they? How did they know when to come? Who invited them? Where were their parents? The visual reminded me so much of how the angels lead the animals into Noah's ark. A few were from our church, but most were from the Moravian church, and many of them we had never even met in the community previously. Thank the Lord we had prepared, just in case, because we had 20 children, all attentive and eager to learn and participate. The singing was pure joy! Glenda put them in pairs to share the crayons they used to color the new pictures Enoch and Jordana had drawn on the theme of the Trinity.

As I presented the service, the deacon and his wife were my focus, and they were engaged, but even as the children colored, they were paying attention and helped answer my questions as we closed. No one seemed to want to leave, so I had to dismiss them with an invitation to come back next Sabbath, and only after giving "Tia" Glenda tight hugs did they make their way back to their homes. God is at work! Jesus said in John 10:27,28, "My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me: and I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand." The children of La Tronquera are hearing Jesus' voice, and what a blessing it is to be working with Him as He prepares their hearts for eternity!

## God bless you!

Your AWA Nicaragua Mission Families

Your AWA Mission Families for the AWA Nicaragua Mission Project

Caleb Runne, Glenda Escudero, Jordana and Enoch





Josh and Yosiday Fix Caleb and Isaac

PRAYER REQUEST: Safety and protection for the family.

**PROJECT NEEDS: #1 Toyota Truck ~ Low Mileage, Reliable, 4 wheel drive** \$28,000-35,000 **#2 Remodeling Mission Base** into a Community Health & Learning Center \$7,000

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