

# NEW HOPE HERALD

TEAM EDUCATION EDITION



## LOOKING AHEAD: TEAMS

As 2018 begins to draw to a close, we are amazed at what God has done and is continuing to do here in Honduras throughout this year. Not only do we have more children enrolled in the ministry than ever before, but both our youth program and team ministry continues to grow. As we begin to look ahead to 2019, we expect our ministry to keep growing as we minister to children, youth, and families in Tegucigalpa. With that said, our goal is to have an even bigger increase in mission teams that have the desire to come work alongside us. Teams not only serve as an encouragement to the missionaries serving here full time, but they also are a blessing to the children and families of Nueva Esperanza. When teams come to Honduras, they are able to provide in ways that otherwise are not possible. Teams are useful in construction projects and forming relationships with our children, teens, and families. Whether it is doing maintenance, improving existing buildings, or starting new construction projects, teams provide Nueva Esperanza with resources it needs to thrive here in Honduras.

The best way you can support us as a ministry is to come and witness the mission of Nueva Esperanza first hand. As we continue to host many different teams, our hope is that team members will see God's character here at the ministry. In coming, our prayer is that they would let their hearts be broken by the injustice and poverty in this country in order to grasp a deeper meaning of joy and compassion. We would love to create more and more relationships with people in the United States who will partner with us so that we can continue increasing the number of families we touch here in Tegucigalpa.



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# PATRONIZATION OF THE POOR

WRITTEN BY SHANE GAUTHIER

FORMER MISSIONARY IN HONDURAS, KENYA, AND HAITI

Patronization is a word that we do not hear very often. It is important to define this word when working in a cross-cultural missions context. Being a Patron can be positive and negative. Short-term missions often times models the unintended consequences of patronization of the poor. It is important that Christians engaging in missions behave in a manner that treats others with dignity and respect.

## Definition

### *pa·tron·ize*

*tr.v. pa·tron·ized, pa·tron·iz·ing, pa·tron·iz·es*

- 1. To act as a patron to; support or sponsor*
- 2. To go to as a customer, especially on a regular basis*
- 3. To treat in a condescending manner, often in showing interest or kindness that is insincere*

When I lived in Haiti, children who did not know me would come up to me and call me Patron. I have been called many things, but this was a first for me. I wasn't sure if it was a good or bad name to be called. The first two definitions of the word patronize are optimistic in nature. Holding the title of Patron is positive especially when you are providing business for someone who is giving you a service. It is also beneficial to support an organization and sponsor a group or individual that is doing effective work. I have been taught that it is better to give than to receive. The children in Haiti, after calling me Patron, would then ask me, a complete stranger, for money. There is plenty of goodness that comes with patronization, but the third definition lends a different meaning to the word.

Have you ever felt patronized by someone in a position of power over you? Do you remember what it felt like? When you are treated in a condescending manner, your sense of dignity and respect is stripped away. The person in power often times does not even realize that they are hurting those whom they have power over. These are the unintended consequences. It is important to be careful when working with the "poor" that we do not strip away their dignity and at the same time increase their dependency.

When I went to the game parks in Kenya, a sign read, "Do not feed the animals." If all of the tourists fed the animals, they would stop doing what they naturally do and this would put them at risk. "When we do for those in need what they have the capacity to do for themselves, we disempower them" (Lupton, Toxic Charity). I have seen this model perpetuated in short-term missions too often.

This summer my church brought a group of High School students to participate in the ministry of Nueva Esperanza. Our church has known this organization for a number of years. That number is not nearly as important as the relationship that has been established with our friends in Tegucigalpa. Our students told their friends and family that they were going to serve the "poor" people of Honduras. Serving the poor is good, but I challenged our students to think about poverty in another way. Labeling someone as poor simply because they lack financial capital is patronization in the negative sense. In our own culture, there are poverties that exist that we don't consider. I asked our students to consider the joy that they encounter when the children at Nueva Esperanza play with bottle caps. I asked them to look at how the Honduran people live out authentic community without all of the conveniences of modern technology.

By the end of our time in Honduras, our students recognized the uniqueness of Nueva Esperanza as a ministry. There is no sign outside of the door to remind the children and their parents that they are financially poor. They work hard to instill dignity by coming alongside the children in their community to reinforce what they are learning in school. They continue to develop in them the knowledge that God uniquely designed them and loves them beyond imagination. Nueva Esperanza understands that adopting all of the children into homes in the United States is not the solution to their problems. They have developed a program that provides kids with an environment where they learn that God loves them and that there is hope to continue to press on regardless of their circumstances while remaining connected to their families.

This is an organization that, although not perfect, is leading the way in how to reach out with the Gospel of Jesus by loving children and their families without patronizing them. I highly recommend Nueva Esperanza to any group who is eager to be challenged to grow in their faith.



SHANE WITH HIS WIFE, KARA



# CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

Our conference space in the Team House is almost complete! Over half of the work done on this area was done by teams. Thank you to everyone who played a part in adding this extension to our ministry. Teams this summer had the chance to use this space for devotions and free time, and it has been amazing to watch our vision for the space come to life.

This year, we were also able to gift 10 bunk beds to families we serve thanks to our teams! When you come to Honduras with a team, your team will build and deliver a bunk bed to one of our families.

There are lots of projects like this that your mission team can do. If your team is interested in doing any sort of construction here in Honduras, please let us know when you are planning your trip so that we can make necessary arrangements to ensure that your projects have a long term impact on the families and children we serve.



*Whoever welcomes one of these little children in my name welcomes me; and whoever welcomes me does not welcome me but the one who sent me. - Mark 9:37*



# WANT TO PLAN A TRIP?

GO TO [WWW.HOPEINHONDURAS.ORG](http://WWW.HOPEINHONDURAS.ORG) > HOW TO HELP > PLAN A TRIP

Planning a trip is easy, and we would love to have you here in Honduras! Each trip is completely personalized to the strengths of your group. Whether it's construction, leading discipleship groups, teaching short courses, or just playing with the kids, every team is welcome and encouraged to share their gifts here at the ministry. We are happy to host you at the well-equipped Team House located in a gated community on the north side of the city. The Team House is fully furnished with 32 beds, a full kitchen, a dining and living room, a conference space, and a backyard for evening free time. While here, team members have a chance to grow spiritually as they take a week or longer away from their normal schedules to serve in Honduras. Nueva Esperanza has changed the lives of people here in Tegucigalpa and from all over the world. Our hope is that through this program, we can continue to reach the masses on the mission field and beyond. To be a part of this ministry, go to [www.hopeinhonduras.org](http://www.hopeinhonduras.org) > how to help > plan a trip. Come join us in bringing new hope to the children of Honduras!

## THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING NUEVA ESPERANZA



We now accept online donations at [www.hopeinhonduras.org](http://www.hopeinhonduras.org)

*Or complete and return this section along with your contribution to our Ohio address.*

My one-time donation: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

My monthly pledge: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

To be designated towards:

- ☐ Bibles
- ☐ General operating expenses
- ☐ Worker/teacher support
- ☐ High school sponsorship
- ☐ Barahona family support
- ☐ New youth center
- ☐ Wherever the need is greatest

### I want to sponsor a child!

- ☐ I want to be a monthly \$30 sponsor
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If you already know which child you want to sponsor, please list his/her name: \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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