

sgf guatemala ministry

Bringing the way and the truth and the life of Jesus to the impoverished, abused and abandoned children of Guatemala

June 2025

Written by Joyce Abbott, 2025 Xela Team member:

I was so fortunate to be a part of the Guatemala team this year! God stretched me in so many ways on this trip. I will try to highlight a few of the things that touched my heart and showed me the incredible ways that God is using this ministry for His good. I won't be able to share everything because our time there was so full and busy but I will share a few tidbits that meant so much to me.

A special moment for me was when Candy and Josias drove members of our team so we were able to meet and spend time with our sponsored children and their families in their homes. This effort meant the world to me. I was able to spend time with my sponsored child, Brenda and meet her family. Her family works hard with their weaving and farming skills. I so enjoyed learning about the weaving process. The families we met with have very little and they were so grateful for the support that they receive through this ministry. My sponsored family presented me with a beautiful blouse and I was so touched to receive such an unexpected gift.

Our time in Guatemala was very busy but rewarding. We helped with feeding meals, teaching Bible lessons, constructing a home, and ministering to disadvantaged people through gifts and time. We were a part of the monthly sponsored giving of food and essentials in one community. These people are truly needy and they were very thankful and appreciative everywhere we went. It was very rewarding to see that firsthand. We were greeted and welcomed to each place very enthusiastically.

Next, the driving! Well, they didn't exactly advertise that point when I went on trip, but yes, there is a lot of time spent in the van! Yet, this was a great time of bonding and fellowship for our team. I learned to have a lot of faith and patience with how long it may take to get places. But a few times we were treated to a Disneyland style ride. No one shared with me we were going to hang on in the back of a pickup truck while we went up twisty bumpy roads! That was definitely a highlight of the trip for someone from my generation! I'm sure we entertained our drivers as we cheered and celebrated the twists and bumps of the road.

Finally, I want to highlight the joy of serving in this ministry. So many of the people we met in the government homes are abandoned from their families. They accepted us as their new family. That is an incredible responsibility. What a blessing it was for us to give out the shoes and the quilts. The look on the faces of the recipients said it all. They know that we are doing this to show the love of Jesus. His love was demonstrated through so many times on our trip. I know this is a community effort and I loved seeing how God's people worked together to make all of this happen. I feel very privileged to have been a part of the 2025 Guatemalan Team from Sierra Grace!





While in Xela, the team had the privilege of joining in with a local crew to help build a home for the Imuls, a family who lives deep in the mountains of Santa Maria Chiquimula. Thank you to the elders of Sierra Grace who approved funds and individual families who gave specifically toward the building of this home. God is using this ministry to reach hearts and bring hope.... and we get to be a part of it!!



Looking for a way to make an impact?

We believe God is leading the ministry to host a breakfast in the mountains of Santa Maria Chiquimula once a month. After breakfast- Josias preaches, Samuel & David lead worship and the Aguilar's involve the children in VBS type activities. The 2025 team assisted the missionaries as one of our activities on the trip.

Sponsor a Breakfast!

\$250 provides a healthy breakfast where the ministry can outreach to this community.



Email us at

guatemalaministrysgf@gmail.com or contact Lysa @ 503.581.8702 if you or your group would like to help sponsor an outreach breakfast.

Thank you to the Sierra Grace Jr High group who is raising money to support a breakfast in the mountains! What a blessing to have a youth group, led by Heidi & Thomas Motto, training young people to develop a heart for missions.



From Jacobo in Zacapa: Gloria is a 12 year old girl at the government home in Zacapa. To this day she says she doesn't know who her father is. He abandoned her when she was a baby. Gloria experiences bouts of sadness. She doesn't understand why her father, instead of loving her, despised and abandoned her. Gloria's mother, on the other hand, couldn't get over the separation and became an alcoholic. That wasn't enough, so she started using drugs. Gloria tells us that it was very sad to see her mother getting drunk and using drugs right in front of her. Gloria wonders why these things happen in life. We have talked with her to let her know that in the midst of everything, there is someone who loves her, and that is our Lord Jesus. When she arrived at the Zacapa Home, she expressed her frustration with her bad behavior. Little by little, she is beginning to understand God's love for her life. Gloria likes to hear Bible stories, paint, and do crafts. Let us pray that lives like Gloria's may be filled with God's love.

jesus loves you

Thank you for praying for these children and the Aguilar's.

To God be the glory,