

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

January 2026

Congratulations!

Samuel

&

Melanie



From Samuel in Xela...

I thank God for His love and faithfulness. I'm engaged! What God has given me is indescribable. I prayed for a wife a few years ago, and now I can't believe that Melanie will be my wife. God's mercy endures forever, and His goodness never fails. As a future married couple, we will serve those in need, those who need Jesus. I can't wait to be with my wife, Melanie, and serve the Lord. Now, in the ministry, there are new areas, such as the Maranatha Bible school and evangelism in the mountains. We have ideas, dreams, and goals that we have entrusted to God. My prayer is that God will use us for the glory and honor of His name. God bless you, we love you.

Josias, Candy, Samuel & David just returned home from Auburn. This time they came for a special "engagement." Melanie and Samuel became friends a few years ago when Melanie went to Xela with a Sierra Grace missions trip and have been dating for the last year. God has been writing their unique story as part of His plan to reach the children of Guatemala through this ministry. They are looking forward to two weddings, one in Auburn and one in Guatemala this summer. Future plans include living in Xela and working in the ministry under Josias & Candy.



Thank you all for your support of the Guatemala ministry. Because of your generosity, the Aguilars were able to provide Christmas events for all children in the ministry together with their teams: Jacobo & Betty in Zacapa and Josias & Candy in Xela. These events included home cooked meals, special desserts, gifts and worship/ fellowship programs in the month of December. This dynamic ministry is seeing lives changed and hearts softened through the faithful service of the Aguilars to the children of Guatemala.

From Josias in Xela.....

More than 300 children attended our VBS in Xesana (a neighborhood in the very poor mountains of Santa Maria Chiquimula). School vacation is November and December. This has brought much joy to our lives. God is touching lives, drawing people to seek Him. Because these children are in great need, this year we brought breakfasts to this place blessing hundreds of children. Today we see how they are

developing a desire to know God more. We pray that in 2026 God will bless these children of Xesana with His love and support.

**If you would like to support this part of the ministry by providing an Outreach Breakfast to these extremely poor children near Xela, Guatemala please let Lysa know. We are hoping to support one breakfast each month for 2026. They cost approximately \$350.



From Jacobo in Zacapa...

Marconi is a 14-year-old teenager. I remember the first time I spoke with him; he was crying from sadness and frustration. He didn't understand why he was at the Zacapa Home. Some time ago, his parents had marital problems, and Marconi's way of escaping was to go out into the streets. That's why the police turned him over to child welfare authorities in Guatemala City, and he was taken to the Zacapa Home. At first, he was a lonely child, just sitting and watching his classmates play soccer. But little by little, he began to trust us and told us his story. He started to enjoy every activity we did, he started playing soccer, and above all, we began to see how God's love and peace began to fill his heart. Several times he has asked me to pray for him. Marconi listens attentively to the Bible stories. Something that stands out about Marconi is that he is someone who is willing to please God with his behavior. A few days ago, while playing soccer, another teenager with a violent temper started provoking him by pushing him in the chest. The only thing I said to him was: "Don't answer him, stay calm," and Marconi listened me. It was amazing to see how God had given him the strength to remain calm. We had our Christmas soccer tournament with the children of the Zacapa Home. We gave out a prize we called the "Golden Ball." It was to be awarded to the best player, the top scorer, and the one with the best conduct. The winner was Marconi.



Thank you for praying for these children and the Aguilars.

To God be the glory,