



Serving the suffering church around the world



Sep 2006 Oct

THE LENCAS OF HONDURAS

By Jim Cardillo
Praise Special Projects Director

"I am sending you to them to open their eyes and turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan to God, so that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in me."

Acts 26:17a-18, NIV

The Lenca Indian people of Western Honduras are the largest indigenous tribe in the country. There are over 100,000 habitants of this group, of which less than 5 per cent claim to be Christians. Predominant beliefs combine a blend of tribal traditions and Catholicism.

Social problems involving alcoholism and malnutrition, along with extreme poverty, result in a very low standard of living and self worth.

Lenca villages are located in remote mountain areas, some at 7,000 feet - difficult to reach in the dry season and nearly impossible to reach in the rainy season. Until recently, there has been little or no missionary outreach to this people group.

Erick Sanchez, a Honduran national, has been led by the Lord to minister to the Lenca people. He



Jim Cardillo, director of Special Projects for Praise, is pictured here (at the far left) with pastors supported by Praise in Honduras. Erick Sanchez is 4th from left. At the far right is Paul Hutton, Honduras representative for MTTA, a partner agency with Praise in Honduras.

frequently visits these remote villages on his motorcycle teaching and preaching the Word of God and being a great source of encouragement.

As I met with Erick on my recent trip to Honduras, he expressed his great desire to equip other local pastors for the work of ministry. Equipping these willing men is only one of many practical needs. Most of these pastors live in areas without electricity or running water. I have asked Erick to provide me with a prioritized list of needs. These needs will be presented to our Praise

family, and prayerfully, through our many generous supporters, Praise will be able to provide for these real needs.

Praise has been assisting nine pastors in this area of the world, all of whom I had the privilege to meet. In addition I met three more pastors, and upon the recommendation of the local leadership, I submitted these pastors to Praise for consideration for financial assistance. Now, these pastors are receiving help from Praise as well. Since Praise is moving out of countries where Voice of the Martyrs is already working,

we are increasing our work in other countries.

Honduras is one of our target countries since it is one of the poorest countries in the Western Hemisphere. We expect to see more activity and opportunity for Praise in Central America in the coming months. We are very excited about the pioneer work Erick and his team of pastors are doing among the Lenca people, and we are privileged to be working with them. The team has identified a number of ministry projects they have asked us to share with you. You may participate in these projects in a number of ways, such as funding a complete project, giving to help towards a specific project, giving on a monthly basis over a period of time toward one of the projects, or in some cases, planning a missions trip to Honduras with your family or friends to help complete the project. We will be happy to help you coordinate a trip if you are interested. Contact us for more information.

When you send your gift, designate it clearly for the project you want to support.

Why should you consider sharing in these projects? They are a practical way to encourage our brothers and sisters in Honduras. They are directly related to evangelism and discipleship. They help preserve the monthly funds given for living expenses.

Please look over the projects and ask the Lord how He would have you be involved.

Construction of Blackboards

(for Sunday school in the mountain churches)

The pastors and leaders need to illustrate their teachings through the use of black boards (the cost of one black board is equivalent to a country worker's monthly salary). Helping with this project would be a great blessing for many people. This project would provide 10 black boards, giving one to each church.

Description:

Cost for 10 blackboards \$965.00

Other expenses \$55.00

Project investment \$1020.00

This project is an excellent opportunity for a church interested in sending a small construction team of 3 to 6 people, or for a family to serve as a team. With the help of the local brothers, in 5 days the project would be completed. Designate your gift Blackboard Project.

Furniture for the Bible Training Center

The Bible training center in Pinares is dedicated to the preparation and training of Lenca pastors and leaders. Even though it is still in development, the first stage is near completion. The next goal is building beds, tables and general furniture.

Description:

To build 15 bunk beds, seven tables, and purchase equipment for the kitchen.

15 bunk beds \$1,250.00

7 tables \$570.00

Kitchen \$910.00

Other \$230.00

Project Investment 2,960.00

This project is also an excellent project for a small group that would like to travel for the purpose of helping complete the project. Designate your gift Bible Training Center.

Coleman Lanterns to light Church Services

In the mountain communities there is no electricity. The nights are dark and there are few outside activities. It's been a good strategy to hold evangelistic meetings and services at night. The light in the middle of the darkness attracts the young people and others who go out. Many have gone back to their homes with the light of Jesus in their hearts. This project has that objective, to provide lanterns to offer the possibility of lighting nighttime Christian meetings in the mountains.

Description:

10 Coleman lanterns \$57.00 (each)

Project Investment \$570.00

This is an excellent opportunity to serve as Light (literally), helping with this special project. Designate your gift Light Project.

Furniture for the San Nicolas

The San Nicolas, Intibucá church while the brothers work on the construction area where there were no churches at the purpose of the project is to help them purchase tables, a pulpit and some small items.

Description:

50 chairs (\$5.70 each) \$285.00

Table and pulpit \$230.00

Other items \$55.00

Project investment \$570.00

Designate your gift

Storage Shed for Tools and other Construction Equipment

With the help of God and the collaboration of many brothers we have many tools like shovels, picks, hammers, etc. We also have kitchen equipment. When we build a church or other building, we already have these very useful tools. We have the goal of building a small storage shed to keep them in a secure way.

Description:

Materials	\$680.00
Other expenses	\$55.00
Project investment	\$735.00

Designate your gift Storage Project.

Equipment to show Movies, Evangelistic Videos, Teaching, & Seminars

This project has as its objective to minister in rural communities through evangelistic movies. This is an excellent opportunity because in these communities many people have never seen a motion picture. This can be the starting point for them to establish a relationship with Jesus. The other objective is to use this equipment for preparation and training workshops in the city or in the mountains.

Description:

To buy a projector, a generator and sound equipment.

Projector	\$1,135.00
Generator	\$680.00
Sound Equipment	\$340.00
Project investment	\$2,155.00

Designate your gift AV Equipment.

Thank you for your part in these projects. Designated gifts of any amount should be sent to:

Praise, Inc.
PO Box 1377
Caldwell, ID 83606

Musical Instruments

In the city of La Esperanza there are two small growing churches. They have a dynamic group of young people who have been making a great effort to improve their times of worship to God in their churches, and they have the vision to buy some musical instruments.

Description:

To buy sound equipment and wiring for the Colonia Venecia church, and also a bass and a guitar and sound equipment for the Monte de Sion church.

Project investment \$1,135.00

The offering collected will be a motivation and help for these young people and will cover part of what is needed. Designate your gift La Esperanza Project.

Christian Literature

(hymn books, Bibles and discipleship material)

Provide a fund to facilitate the purchase of material that will serve in the development of the Christian life of new believers. This fund will subsidize the actual cost of the Biblical material, allowing the brothers to purchase the materials at less than half of retail cost.

Description:

100 hymnbooks	\$365.00
100 discipleship material	\$120.00
25 Bibles	\$90.00
Project investment	\$575.00

These materials are badly needed. Your gift should be designated for Literature.

Furniture and Finish Carpentry for the Church of Porvenir, Piraera

With much effort the Porvenir, Piraera church has completed the construction of their building to give them a place to hold their services. They are doing a pioneer work in an area where there were no churches. The objective of this project is to help them complete their furnishings, which include chairs, windows and doors.

Description:

50 chairs (\$5.70 each)	\$285.00
Doors & windows	\$180.00
Table and pulpit	\$90.00
Other expenses	\$55.00
Project investment	\$610.00

Designate your gift Porvenir Project

San Nicolas, Intibuca Church

is holding services in a rented house in construction of their building located in an area. They are doing a pioneer work. They are buying the furniture that includes chairs,

San Nicolas Project.

Pastors Assist Flood Victims in India

By John Nanda

There is a very hard situation that we want to ask your prayer for.

There have been very heavy rains in this monsoon season and they have caused the rivers to overflow, and then recently there was also a tropical storm in the Bay of Bengal. This has caused flooding in nearly 300 coastal villages, especially in the area of the River Gangees in East and West Godavari Districts. This has affected the area already struggling from the effects of drought. As many as 62,000 people have been evacuated to safe places. The death toll mounted to 146 throughout the state. The flood waters have caused large scale destruction to communication, power supply, houses, crops, roads and infrastructure.

The last week in August there was no heavy rainfall reported but there is a lot of after-flood disaster. In flood affected villages people are suffering with the diseases like cholera, malaria fever and filarial. In some backward villages

people are dying because there is no immediate medical help. Some of our Pastors that work in this area are sharing the love of Christ by relieving some of the suffering of these people. They are sharing community meals together and providing much needed medicine. They are asking us to pray for some special needs, like a 50lb bag of rice, cooking pots and utensils, blankets and medicine for each family. A team of Pastors with some Christian medical professionals are doing this work out of the local church.

They are also working with local authorities to help relocate the victims. They need our prayer and financial help at this crucial time. Please pray for these men of faith as they represent the love of Christ to the suffering people in India.

Here a website that has photos of the affected area if you are interested to check it out: www.andhrajothy.com/gallery/floods.asp

Thank you so much for praying! God's peace and blessings to you.

Saved from the Flames

By Joy Kuria

Pastor and friend of Kenyan pastor Peter Macharia

Peter and his family would like to express their thanksgiving and appreciation to you for your continued support. Surely you have given yourself to God to be the vessel that He has used to come to our help in this time of need. Last year Pastor Peter went to visit his grandparents. On one particular day, he went to supervise some charcoal that was burning.

In Kenya charcoal is produced by falling trees and arranging them together with the branches into a heap covered with large chunks of earth and finally covered with loose soil. The fire is started from one end, and after the logs have caught fire, the burning logs are covered with soil so they will burn slowly. It is left like this for about a week and then dug out before the charcoal is reduced to ashes. The fire is finally put out by covering the hot coals with soil or water. As Peter checked the burning pile, the soil gave way and he fell into the burning firewood. His cry for help brought rescue but not before he

had suffered burns on his face and on many other parts of his body. He spent over two months in the hospital before he was discharged. On the day he was burned, his father collapsed in another town due to diabetes and was rushed to the hospital. His mother received the two reports simultaneously. Peter is now at home and recovering though his movement is impaired because his face still carries many scars. He has begun the process of plastic surgery because the doctors feel that with his face looking as it does, he will suffer social rejection the rest of his life, and they hope to be able to help him. In Kenya such an operation is very expensive. Peter and his family ask that you believe together with them, as you have continued to do so faithfully, that the God of all mercy will bring a total healing of his life. Thank you again and may God reward you.

You are highly favored of the Lord.

Contact Us

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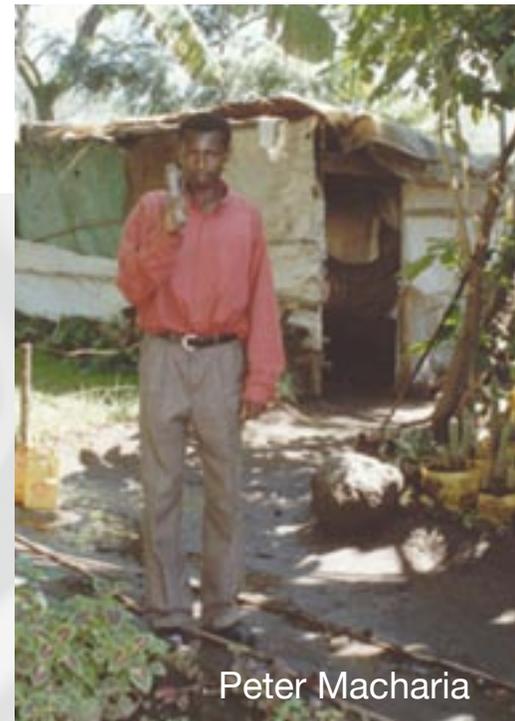
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