

The Brenner Broadcast (()

NEWSLETTER

May 2024, Nineteenth Edition



-DISCIPLES FOR LIFE-



(Top Photo) Lisa and I at Balboa Park in San Diego while visiting Taylor and Bryan. (Above Photo) Started the year harvesting our pig and putting on a big BBQ for our church family and friends in the community.

And now, brothers and sisters. one final thing. Fix your thoughts on what is true, and honorable, and right, and pure, and lovely, and admirable. Think about things that are excellent and worthy of praise. Keep putting into practice all you learned and received from me - everything you heard from me and saw me doing. Then the God of peace will be with you. (Philippians 4:8-9 NLT)

All true believers of Jesus Christ are people that learn to deny themselves in bearing their cross and following after Jesus, day in, day out, day after day. This is what it is to be a disciple. A true Christian is a true disciple and that is what we are so desperately in need of today. As I write this I am thinking "Who is discipling me?" I imagine, I could say John Piper, John MacAurthur, R.C. Sproul, Brett Meador at Athey Creek are a few of the men I enjoy listening to most. But I think I am also discipled by other godly men that God has placed into my life, namely my brother-in-law Patrick and our friend and pastor, Ludy Washington. As I see them, I see Christ imitated in their lives. I in turn, continue to grow in knowledge of God and His Holiness and as I do, it comes with a great deal of humility as to how much there is I don't know. But even so, I take that knowledge and experience I have received and pour it out into the lives of our boys, our church family and our community. This is what we are called to live for, to be disciples making disciples. It's all about relationships, giving these boys access to our lives, letting them see how Christ followers respond to difficult trials. As when I witness a more mature follower in how they respond to someone who is hard to love and hard to get along with, that speaks volumes to me of how I am to handle that aspect of my Christian walk. We all need other believers who are more mature and knowledgeable to help influence our Christian life. Then, we read in verse 9 (above) we are to "practice" these things we have learned and received. Not to just keep notes in the margins of our bibles but to get it into our hearts and our lives, putting it into practice; we should be in the middle somewhere, we are to be receiving an influence and we are also to be giving an influence. It's not only about a private/personal relationship with God, it is also about living out Godly relationships with one another - sharing God's truths. Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. (Matthew 28:19 NLT)

Mission Progress and Praise... As with every Newsletter, we have lots to share! It seems like every year gets busier, this year is no exception. All the boys did very well in the first quarter of school. We helped Jerbin (who graduated last year) get into UPN a University, studying to be an English teacher in the big city of La Ceiba. Another one of our past boys, Marco, is doing well in the Honduran Naval Academy, Officer Training Program. And Arnold is doing a great job of walking the talk. He proposed to Carla, happy to report they are planning to get married later this year! Mid February we had a weekend BBQ for our church family and community friends hosting nearly 200! And then we were blessed with (4) different teams visiting, Feb. 29th through April 25th! some



overlapping. The first team was from Highlands Community Church (Gina, Patty, Kurt and Gwen), who blessed our neighborhood school by building 30+ desks and providing needed school supplies, then helped to organize my tool container! What a blessing. Second, we had a small group (Weldon, Leonardo and Jackie) doing "Men of Honor" leader training, then a "Ladies of Honor" two day camp; and Leonardo partnered with us to help supply our neighbors with small lithium batteries, lights and small fans. Thirdly, our friends, Andy and Ian, both pastors from Athey Creek Christian Fellowship, came on a pastoral encouragement mission. Fourth in the list was a group of friends and pastors - Matt from Calvary Chapel, friend Chris, Pastor Eduardo Garifuna church, Pastor Bayardo Miskitu church, Pastor Cornelio Mayanga church, all to build a roof on our church dormitory. Also Chris and I found time to pour cement over Carla's well. Additionally, I installed a new 48 volt 6500 watt solar system, moving the old house system to the outside dining hall for lights and bigger panels for the well pump. PLUS! several ongoing issues with our truck and moto. I rebuilt the starter in the truck; noticed oil in radiator, replaced oil cooler, still oil in radiator, removed head, no blown gasket or cracked head? Must be an oil cooler gasket being replaced tomorrow. Also had to do a sidecar rebuild after only 5 years in the country! Stay Salty! Where does the time go?

Mission Needs...We are beginning to look ahead as we see the need for a new ministry truck. We have worn out the Dodge 2500 with the transportation of our Casa family, plus the ministry teams, including materials moved - all have taken a toll on the ol' warhorse. Marco is in need of a donated laptop to complete homework or funding (\$500). Also in need of one more 12v lithium battery and a 24v inverter, after the first team out-worked our 12v 3500 watt inverter, melting it down at the end of the project.

Partnerships & Praise...Grateful for the needed sponsors stepping up for our (3) new boys, and all the startup costs being met at the beginning of year. Thank You. Thank God for His steadfast provision in all things.

Additional Contact Information... <u>actioninternational.org/brenner</u> For *La Casa Del Camino* news & photos please follow the blog at <u>chosen2followhim.org</u> on <u>Instagram @Chosen2followhim</u> and <u>Instagram @lacasadelcamino_honduras</u>

PRAYER REQUESTS

- > Please pray for us to have thankful hearts overflowing with gratitude.
- > For all our marriages to be strengthened by God's love and unity in all things.
- > For our words to be a blessing and encouragement to others.
- > For a new ministry truck
- > For all our brothers and sisters in Christ to be in the middle, receiving and being that Christ-like influence.

"Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you. And be sure of this; I am with you always, even to the end of the age." (Matthew 28:20)

In Him, For Him and About Him - Mike and Lisa Brenner