

Go and Equip
Episode 209
The Good News in Honduras
Besorah
Part 2

00:00:11:06 - 00:00:39:08

Chandalee

Welcome back. Today, Jenn and I are continuing our conversation with one of our pastors, Darrell Davenport, about the besorah or good news in Honduras. Being part of this ministry has enriched our lives. And we hope you're encouraged by the stories, Darrell, shares of how the gospel is spreading in the mountains among the link Indians. If you're interested in learning more about this mission, check out the show notes for Darrell's email or my email at Go and Equip.

00:00:39:24 - 00:00:49:01

Chandalee

Enjoy the conversation.

00:00:51:15 - 00:01:07:16

Darrell

Now we have five vibrant churches in the mountains of Honduras that Gerardo takes care of and and let me tell you, the you talked about earlier, we were talking about Jenn and we were talking about the generational stuff.

00:01:07:18 - 00:01:08:22

Jenn

Yes.

00:01:08:22 - 00:01:31:06

Darrell

Our first church we built in 2000, and that was San Marcos. And down the street, down the highway or the road, it's a dirt road, but it's a main road down the road. From there, there was a house that two houses and one was two little boys. Cell, Ben and Diego, and they would come up there every day.

00:01:31:06 - 00:01:50:12

Darrell

The little, you know, they'd come up on hill hard as they could go. And another little boy that lived down the way a little bit, and his name was Alexis and Alexis, his mom, Canter, she ran a house hotel right on the main road where people going, it's on the main roads about an hour and a half, 2 hours from El Salvador.

00:01:50:24 - 00:02:17:25

Darrell

So she would that's what she ran. And that's that was her job. But she had this piece of property. So the night that I preached on back in up into '99, the night that I preached and Gerardo interpreted for me after that, Billy got up through the in through his Spanish, said that anybody that would be interested in participating in a Baptist evangelical church, y'all stay afterwards.

00:02:18:13 - 00:02:42:27

Darrell

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Well, they did. And that became the church at San Marcos. So now we had people that wanted to have a church and there's Billy. He's a missionary doing dentistry in that area. And so Gerardo ah, we were sitting there with Jurado and Billy said, Well, if, you know, we had 25 people or so stay. And Billy said, Well, who's going to be?

00:02:43:04 - 00:03:04:10

Darrell

Billy wasn't a preacher at all. And he said, Well, who's gonna Pastor? And Gerardo said, I will. And so off we go. I mean, it was really neat, but let me tell you about the little boy. So we didn't have a place for a church, but up on the main road, there was a piece of property that Alexis's mom, Gabrielle owned.

00:03:05:01 - 00:03:25:13

Darrell

And she said, Y'all can have it, I'll give it to the church. But it's a little mountain heal off the salary. And she said, you have to cut that off, you know, to flatten it out. So we said, okay. So we hired a tractor guy coming in, scraped it all off, all that stuff. So now fast forward 20 years, okay?

00:03:25:14 - 00:03:25:24

Jenn

Mm hmm.

00:03:26:23 - 00:03:39:14

Darrell

Alexis, who was one of those little boys as we built that church. His mom gave the property 20 years later. Today, Alexis is the pastor of that church.

00:03:39:18 - 00:03:39:24

Jenn

Oh.

00:03:40:12 - 00:03:41:28

Darrell

Now you tell me. God ain't got a point.

00:03:41:28 - 00:03:42:23

Jenn

Yeah. He doesn't.

00:03:42:26 - 00:03:44:21

Chandalee

He certainly does.

00:03:44:21 - 00:03:55:04

Jenn

Awesome plan. What types of mission trips do you do there? There are a couple of different kinds, kinds of trips that you do throughout the year. Can you explain what those look like?

00:03:55:13 - 00:04:27:22

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Darrell

When we started doing Honduras missions after Billy left, we decided that we needed to do what I call is a multifaceted trips out of now. We have we have a little we have 11 different churches in seven different states. And everybody has things that they do. Well, okay. One of the things that we do well is we've got a great group of guys that can build.

00:04:28:12 - 00:04:56:16

Darrell

And in the mountains there are at that time no churches. When we started there, no evangelical churches within an hour's drive. Now we have five of ours and there's other churches that now have come in and started churches as well. But we have five. But we we had to build those buildings and that's lane block, cement, all that kind of stuff.

00:04:56:16 - 00:05:08:10

Darrell

And we got a great group of guys that man, they were in three days in in three and a half days. Let's put in three and a half days. We can build a church. Wow.

00:05:08:16 - 00:05:11:11

Chandalee

It's incredible. It can be done.

00:05:11:18 - 00:05:17:01

Darrell

Our guys know what they're doing. But the folks in Honduras, they really know what I mean.

00:05:17:01 - 00:05:21:17

Chandalee

I've been there and seen women carrying, you know, 50 pound bags of concrete just like it's nothing.

00:05:22:04 - 00:05:46:14

Darrell

And the one that always gets our guys is that any time we're working in a community, if we're building a school building or if we're building a church or we're adding this, whatever, the communities all come together and they all work. I mean, they are hard, hard workers and they'll come do that. But our guys get all bent out of shape because, you know, they're carrying cinder blocks to light.

00:05:46:18 - 00:06:06:24

Darrell

And you turn around look and you've got a lady that is I mean, y'all size. Yeah, I'm talking short in stature but strong. And these like they've got a baby in a wrapped up, like a papoose or whatever. They get wrapped up in a blanket and a sling. They got a baby wrapped up in. In the front.

00:06:07:01 - 00:06:07:12

Jenn

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Mm hmm.

00:06:07:28 - 00:06:32:18

Darrell

And throw in sacks of dirt and concrete in over their back. And they're there all day long? Yeah, they volunteer all day long. Wow. It's really pretty neat. And what we try to do that. So we've got some folks that do that. We've got other folks that have been we've done some medical stuff we've done we've had dentist go and, you know, that do that.

00:06:32:24 - 00:06:52:23

Darrell

We have done women's Bible studies. That's one of the things there in the mountains that the ladies are in the mountains, folks that haven't been before. It is it's like at least 70 years behind our rural America today.

00:06:52:23 - 00:06:53:03

Jenn

Yeah.

00:06:53:23 - 00:07:23:24

Darrell

Yes. And now it's you see such a diverse, you know, one of the greatest photos that I have is an older man. He's probably 60 plus years of age sittin on an ox cart with wooden wheels and an ox in front of it. And he's sitting there with his cowboy boots on and a hat on. And he, you know, this wrinkled old, grizzled looking guy talking on his cell phone.

00:07:25:11 - 00:07:28:14

Chandalee

I mean, it's like cultures clashing. Yeah, it really is.

00:07:28:14 - 00:07:58:06

Darrell

And so anyway, so that's you know, we we try to help do anything like those things. We do a lot of vacation Bible school stuff because back to what I said earlier, the great thing is, guys, when you see those kids and they're hearing Bible stories true biblical, read them straight just from the Bible, and they're like, they'd never heard that before.

00:07:58:07 - 00:08:07:03

Chandalee

So let's, let's, let's talk about that a little bit more. They've never heard it before because there's such a presence of persecution in that area. Talk to us a little bit about that.

00:08:07:10 - 00:08:36:11

Darrell

It it doesn't make sense. But here's what they do in Honduras, in that area of Honduras. And I'm not saying every place is like this, but where we work in the mountains of Honduras, the Catholic Church is tremendously oppressive. And and and they control people through things. Example, when we come in sharing the gospel, we tell them that they can talk straight to Jesus.

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00:08:36:25 - 00:09:02:06

Darrell

Well, that goes against what the Catholic priest has been telling them, that, no, you got to come to me. You got you know, if you don't confess your sins to me, then you know you're not going to be forgiven. And here's how they play on their fear. Now, think about this. If you've been told since you were born that if the priest doesn't give you your last rites, that you will automatically go to hell.

00:09:03:18 - 00:09:17:17

Darrell

And that's what they're told. And then I come in and tell you that when you're 12 years old, okay, I come in and tell you that, hey, you can have a partial relationship with Jesus, and when you die, you'll go to heaven.

00:09:18:06 - 00:09:18:18

Jenn

Mm hmm.

00:09:19:02 - 00:09:53:24

Darrell

So I come in and tell you that I think of the the struggle inside of the, you know, in the community. So our people, when they get saved and they come start coming to the evangelical, the Baptist Church, okay? The people in the Catholic Church shun them. It's almost like back in Jewish days, you know, in first century days, when people would come become part of the way and follow Jesus, that people like Paul would come in, persecute, they, take their businesses from them and all that kind of stuff.

00:09:54:09 - 00:10:21:01

Darrell

And you understand in the mountains of Honduras, they depend on friends and neighbors and family because all of their almost every thing that they make moneywise is through their crops. And they don't they don't have a lot of crops and they do everything by hand. So when you start trying to dig ten acres of potatoes by yourself, they'll rot before you get to them.

00:10:21:01 - 00:10:46:07

Darrell

All right. So you have to depend on those people. And that's been the great thing to watch in our churches, is that this family, mom and dad, get saved. And then this family over here that's been literally cussing them, yelling at them, telling their ignorant as they walk down the road. Then this parade and now this couple gets say and this people get saved.

00:10:46:07 - 00:11:04:02

Darrell

These kids get say all of that. You know what I'm saying? And it's neat how that grows together and success breeds success. And so now it's like they have families, dozens of families in each church that now take care of each other. And to answer your question, see, that's how we come in and help.

00:11:04:14 - 00:11:04:23

Jenn

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Mm hmm.

00:11:05:17 - 00:11:13:06

Darrell

Because through the persecution, here's what the in that area of the Catholic Church is. They take everything and they give nothing.

00:11:13:11 - 00:11:13:24

Jenn

Mm hmm.

00:11:14:05 - 00:11:47:23

Darrell

And that's how our people. Because remember, I told you the link of folks were, you know, mountain country folks for years and years and years, the Honduras government took them just as a bunch of dumb redneck mountain folks about 20 years ago. They started getting together and voting as a bloc, and it changed all of a sudden. Now the government wants to come in and help out.

00:11:47:24 - 00:12:09:13

Darrell

What can we do to help serve you? Da da da da da. Well, the Catholic Church hadn't figured this out yet. So what the Catholic Church does is is like about 15 years ago. Yeah, yeah. About 15 years ago, the priest in the big church in town needed a new truck. Okay. He needed a new truck. Mm hmm.

00:12:09:20 - 00:12:36:12

Darrell

And they sent out statements to everybody in the mountains, and it said, you're part of the priest truck is 500 Olympic or whatever it was. I don't remember the numbers, but they sent it to everybody. And our people immediately started asking, Gerardo, what are we supposed to do? And he goes, Well, do you want to give them 500 Olympia?

00:12:36:14 - 00:12:51:20

Darrell

Well, no, that's not the church we go to anymore, he said. Then don't do it. And here's what the priest told them. Well, if you you know, if you're going to join that evangelical church, if you're going to do that, I'm not sure I would be able to do your funeral.

00:12:52:00 - 00:12:52:12

Jenn

Hmm. Hmm.

00:12:52:20 - 00:12:59:23

Darrell

Give you your last rites. Yeah. Well, now think about that. If you've been told that since your whole life. Your whole life. That's a scary thought.

00:12:59:24 - 00:13:00:15

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Yeah. Yeah.

00:13:00:18 - 00:13:02:18

Darrell

Anyway, so they use fear to control.

00:13:03:08 - 00:13:23:11

Chandalee

Another one when I think it was in 19 when I was there, one of the communities we went into first time we had been there and some of the kids, most of the kids wouldn't have anything to do with us. And we found out later that the priest had been telling them that those white people want to take you home with them, so they're going to cut you out and put you in their suitcase and take you home.

00:13:23:24 - 00:13:39:19

Chandalee

So you stay away from them. And it's that kind of fear that is holding them under persecution and hostage. And I just I just love that Gerardo, which just stands up to him and just keeps, keeps preaching the gospel and keep sharing that especially.

00:13:39:20 - 00:13:57:16

Darrell

I remember that community and I think back and I laugh because the first day how standoffish or even with all the the neat stuff that we know that our guys had a balloon. Right. I maybe we had those beach ball on that great thing that you fluff up and yeah.

00:13:57:16 - 00:13:58:18

Chandalee

the parachute.

00:13:58:19 - 00:14:01:20

Darrell

Yeah. And those kids were like, oh but in oh yeah. They were like.

00:14:01:20 - 00:14:04:29

Chandalee

They wanted to you could just tell it in their eyes. They wanted to participate, but.

00:14:05:07 - 00:14:05:25

Jenn

They were afraid.

00:14:05:25 - 00:14:06:01

Chandalee

They were.

00:14:06:01 - 00:14:22:19

Darrell

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Afraid. So by the time we get back the second day. Yeah, Gerardo had said everybody straight. Right. And those kids hit the ground running. Yeah, but that's the way it is. It's sad to see that that they people would use that fear to do that, but. Oh, my.

00:14:22:24 - 00:14:31:00

Chandalee

Which is which is straight tactics that the enemy has been using since the beginning of time to prevent the gospel from being spread.

00:14:31:05 - 00:14:31:29

Jenn

Yes. I'm sorry.

00:14:32:09 - 00:14:34:05

Darrell

You're very much right. You're much right.

00:14:34:21 - 00:14:54:06

Chandalee

So we've got about 5 minutes left today. Is there any one story that just jumps out at you transformation wise? I know the lady at the very beginning that started off your times of going to Honduras. Are there any others that are just night and day that you'd love to leave our listeners with?

00:14:54:08 - 00:15:23:22

Darrell

I think, again, the story I was telling you about, Alexis, the second part of that story is, is that and that's in our church in San Marcos. The other side of it is we have a church in El Paso and El Paso now, I'll never forget it. It was it's probably been ten years ago now that we started we built that church and Chris Cordes and I went in December and went to do the planning trip.

00:15:24:06 - 00:15:54:00

Darrell

And I'll never forget I've got pictures of it. And in December is coming. It's the end of the rainy season. So when we go in December, usually the first couple of weeks in December for the planning trip, it can either be 78 and sunshine or it can be 52 and drizzly and cold and wind blowing. Well, it was the second week that you and we are Chris and I had done this long enough that we had our coats.

00:15:54:27 - 00:16:16:09

Darrell

So we've got our coats and we go to wear this new community old puzzle out where they've had a Bible study. And Gerardo said, This is where we went. We need to look at building a church. So we went to this property and that's one of the things that good Catholics in that area won't sell us property because, oh, no, no, you can't do that.

00:16:16:09 - 00:16:35:08

Darrell

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Those evangelicals will come in here. Well, this guy had a piece of property right out on the road there where we were, you know, where we needed it. And he was part of the Bible study. So I went and Chris and I went and talked to him and he was homeless. He said I said, or how big's this property?

00:16:35:14 - 00:16:58:11

Darrell

And his house was sitting off the road a little ways and adobe brick house. And I said, Well, what's the problem? He said, Well, it starts over there and it goes over here and then it goes back to there. And he starts pointing towards the stuff. I said, Well, how much actually from point to point? And he said, And I'm I don't remember the exact number, but he said, he said, it's 22 sticks, knife, 22 poles.

00:16:58:18 - 00:17:17:28

Darrell

He said it's 22 poles. And I went, Well, how long is a pole? And he said, Well, it's about that. I said, How do you measure that? And he went and he looked at this little boy named Noel or Joel. Well, he looks at how well his his son says, Go get my pole. So he went and got it.

00:17:17:28 - 00:17:45:16

Darrell

And literally he had a pole that was almost six foot long. Okay. And so he laid it out and kept flipping it over. And that's how he measured the land. And so he went, it's so many poles this way in so many poles that way. And I thought, Well, that was great. And I've got pictures of he and Chris and Joel standing out there and Joel standing there, a little bitty boy about this big, and he stand there holding that pole.

00:17:46:13 - 00:18:13:04

Darrell

And today, Joel is the pastor of that church. And he has been Joel, his he went to seminary at 18 years of age, went to seminary in Mexico, spent three years in seminary and has come back and is now pastoring that church and working alongside Hirano. He's a really smart kid. And and I just look, you talking about June.

00:18:14:08 - 00:18:43:13

Darrell

They're raising up and it's all organic. Yeah, that's the thing. Now, we're not starting churches. They're starting churches there, and they're going in these guys. And there are five young guys that are now pastoring are leading those churches and and they are studying and they're working. And we've got guys that are going and teaching them and leading with leadership and theology and all it is.

00:18:43:23 - 00:18:59:16

Darrell

And it's all and it's organic. And I think back to when I first went with Billy and Billy, who when we were there, I am Bob said that what we want to do is, is we want an organic movement of an unreached people group.

00:18:59:16 - 00:18:59:24

Jenn

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Yeah.

00:19:00:06 - 00:19:04:03

Darrell

They're not unreached anymore. Well, yes, God had a plan, so it's been neat.

00:19:04:21 - 00:19:13:00

Jenn

The work of the Holy Spirit is working over all these years and in and through His people. It's just a beautiful, awesome thing. So.

00:19:13:14 - 00:19:16:01

Chandalee

Well, thank you, Daryl, for sharing with us about Honduras.

00:19:16:02 - 00:19:18:22

Darrell

Any time you know that, you never miss a chance.

00:19:18:23 - 00:19:20:10

Chandalee

No, not at all. If.

00:19:20:10 - 00:19:24:22

Jenn

If someone wanted to go on a mission trip with you, Daryl, how would we do that?

00:19:25:12 - 00:19:47:18

Darrell

They need to contact me, okay? And we've had folks, y'all know, we've had folks that are that are not members of our church, that are that are other churches. And that's how we went from five churches. Now to 11 churches is because we have new churches coming in all the time that are they. They go somebody goes just as idea.

00:19:47:22 - 00:20:00:19

Darrell

I went the first time God moved and I came back and you know, I took Jean Painter with me and next thing you know, the next time you know, I come back, I take Chris Cordes and and as I say, the rest is history, you know.

00:20:01:00 - 00:20:12:29

Chandalee

Well, it's Darrell Davenport at Stuart Heights dot org and I will link that in the show notes. So if you guys have questions about Honduras, you guys want to take a trip to Honduras and serve. Darrell would love to talk to you more about that.

00:20:13:14 - 00:20:30:21

Darrell

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And I can do it. Thank you. I appreciate opportunity to to talk about Honduras. It's a it's a really neat thing. And I will tell you that in the transition that I am in here right now, it's Stuart Heights. One of my goals is, is to do less of all the other stuff and more of this stuff.

00:20:30:27 - 00:20:32:22

Jenn

Yeah, that's awesome. That's. Yeah.

00:20:32:28 - 00:20:35:09

Chandalee

So that transition is retirement.

00:20:36:07 - 00:20:37:18

Jenn

Yes. Yes.

00:20:37:24 - 00:20:42:26

Chandalee

Moving quickly upon that age. Yes. All right. Well, thank you, Darrell. Thank you. Have a great day.

00:20:43:05 - 00:20:43:17

Darrell

Thank you.

00:20:43:17 - 00:20:45:29

Jenn

Bye bye.

00:20:47:11 - 00:21:07:14

Chandalee

Thanks for listening today. We hope you enjoyed these two conversations with Darrell about Basra and how the good news of Jesus is being shared in the mountains of Honduras with the link to Indians. If you'd like to learn more about how you can plug in with the Honduras mission, you can email DarrellDavenport@stuartheights.org, to connect with Jenn and I, you can find us over at goandequip.com or on our YouTube channel. And as always, we'd love it if you'd like and love our Facebook and Instagram pages and share this podcast with your friends. See you next episode.