



SANDY CARTER

March 2006

Love Changes Lives



February 1998 to February 2008 Celebrating a Decade in Nicaragua!

A Series of Miraculous Events



Sandy, Rachel, Ana and other children from the orphanage.

When I arrived in Nicaragua early in February of 1998, I had no idea what the Lord had in store for me in this post-civil war torn country. Then, after living in Managua for a few months I wasn't even sure we could survive, much less accomplish anything for God's Kingdom.

These past 10 years have been full of uncertainties on every level, they have been years of taking baby steps of faith then witnessing His blessings rain down in miraculous proportions. One of the most amazing parts of this "adventure" has been the team He has put together to reach the children of this country for Him. I often tell folks, there are no heroes here-just each one of us doing his or her part.

In some ways it seems like yesterday that I stood in the middle of an abandoned construction site in an obscure mountain town of Nicaragua.

The weeds had grown over my head, and someone's cattle had made it their grazing ground. The foundation was barely visible. I had a sinking sensation in my heart, knowing what I knew about third world countries did not help my faith. Later, I became accustomed to that overwhelmed feeling, but at that moment the immensity of just the construction of the Jinotega orphanage was almost paralyzing.



Jinotega, 1999

Now, a decade later, I don't see the weeds. I don't feel the doubt and fear. We have more orphanages and more children. We have more battles, but even greater victories. Faith is being built in my heart and in the hearts of the children we care for daily. God's love and miraculous provision have been with us every moment and in each step.

My sincerest thanks to all of you! Together, we have been His hands and feet, reaching out in faith to one more child, one more village. Together we have witnessed His plan unfold and the journey over the last decade has been amazing. Yes, it's been 10 years and quite honestly, we are just getting started!

Together for the next generation,

Sandy

Then...

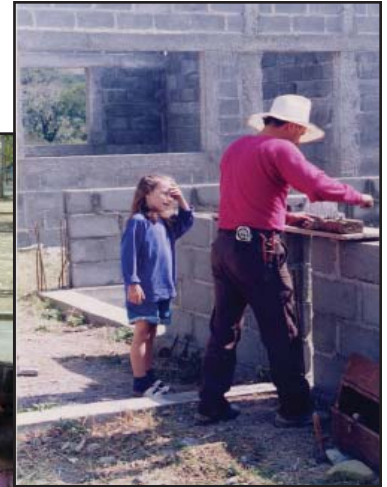


Irma
2000



Joel with his brothers and sister. They were some of the first children in the Las Torres feeding program. 1999

Sandy at the feeding program
2004



Rachel supervising the construction at Jinotega.



Our Ana
1999



Marvin and Moises' first day with us



Jinotega
1999

Now!



Irma
(15 and in 10th grade)



Moises
(13 and in 1st year of high school.)



Babies learn to share!



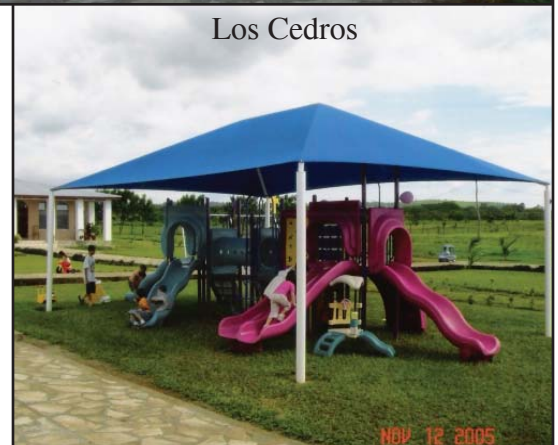
Los Cedros



Circle of Love
2008



Joel with a crab at the beach.
Full time ministry worker
2008



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