

HONDURAS



Barrio El Centro School

Calvary Baptist Church

2016 SHORT-TERM TRIP

WATER

Community Details

Thirst is evidence of life—but it is also evidence that life is fragile, and without basic necessities, such as safe water, life can quickly disappear. The 150 families of Barrio El Centro and the 530 students of Barrio El Centro School knew this reality all too well. The residents had access to local surface water, but this water source did not provide them with the safe or reliable water they needed, and they were often left struggling with malaria, respiratory infections, and other waterborne diseases as a result. The illnesses caused academic, financial, and developmental setbacks as the children lost hours of learning and the adults lost days of employment due to preventable water and hygiene-related sicknesses. In an effort to end the struggle of thirst, the local leaders reached out to the field team through a visit, a phone call, and an in-person visit to request a safe, dependable water source for the community. The field team confirmed that they would come and drill for safe water as a direct result of the gifts of Calvary Baptist Church. Thank you, Calvary Baptist Church members, for making the hope of safe water a reality for the students of Honduras.

The successful well was completed through the efforts of the field team, a short-term trip (STT) team from Calvary Baptist Church, and the local residents. Together, they dug a borehole to an ample aquifer that measured 33 meters deep. Once the aquifer was reached, the team installed the piping, poured a protective concrete platform, and capped the well with a new Afridev hand pump. The community showed their commitment and investment in the new water point by providing security and labor while the team worked. The water point will change the day-to-day lives of the people and make the burdens of the local families, school, and church much lighter.

The ministry of the team did not end at the water point. The team extended their ministry into the community by sharing essential lessons on hygiene and sanitation. The lessons, while basic, provided the community with the information they need to understand the “how” and “why” of practicing safe hygiene. This information, once put into practice, can help prevent many hygiene-related illnesses that once took so much productivity and peace from the community.

While sharing these lessons, the team was also able to present the gospel through Scripture reading and oral Bible storytelling. The team related the hope of safe water with the hope that comes through the salvation of Jesus Christ. With the message of the gospel planted in the hearts of the people, the well project did not just meet a physical need, but also opened up the doors to meet a spiritual and eternal need as well.

Thank you, Calvary Baptist Church, for demonstrating what it means to be servants of Christ. Thank you for showing that the gospel is not just the gift of eternity, but that it is also the call for every believer to love our neighbors as ourselves (Mark 12:31). You recognized the children of Honduras as your neighbors, and by doing so, you transformed their daily lives and pointed them to the hope of eternity—Jesus. Thank you.

Project Details

Product	New
Location of water point	Barrio El Centro School, Barrio El Centro, Yoro, Olanchito
Type of Institution Served	School
GPS Coordinates	Latitude: 15 28.431 N Longitude: 086 34.432 W

School

Grade Levels	Primary and Secondary	
Total number of Students	Boys: 234	Girls: 296
Latrine: Pupil Ratio	1:132	

Construction

Altitude	47 m	
Total depth drilled	33 m	
Static level	15 m	
Total depth of casing	33 m	
External Diameter of casing	100 mm	
Casing material	PVC	
Screen	Start: 30 m	Stop: 33 m
Pump Type	Afridev	
Depth of cylinder	24 m	
Gravel Pack	Yes	
Gravel Pack Depth	15 m	
Well yield	25 Liters/minute	
Sanitary seal depth from surface	18 m	
Shock Chlorination	Yes	

Well Platform

Platform is concrete with reinforcing steel	Yes	
Dimension of Platform (H*W*L)	.25*2*3	
Drainage Channel or soak pit installed	Yes	

Water Quality Results

Water Purity Test	LWI Test Kit
Total Dissolved Solids (as per T.D.S meter) :	349
pH:	7
Total Hardness:	120 Ppm
Nitrate/Nitrites:	0 Ppm
Bacteria Test	Coliform Bacteria NOT detected (Colorless or Light Yellow color)

FOR LIFE

Hygiene Promotion

While safe water is the first essential step to draw a community out from under the constant burden of disease, the second essential step is to ensure the residents understand the basics of safe hygiene and sanitation. To ensure the community knew how to practice safe hygiene and sanitation and why it is important, the team delivered interactive lessons to 530 individuals during their time there. The lessons addressed the concepts of germs and disease transmission to ensure the community understood these invisible, but real, threats. Next, the team showed them how to protect themselves from the threats by teaching them how to practice simple habits, such as proper handwashing, how to conserve safe water, and how to keep safe water clean. The team also showed them how to care for the new water point so that the area would remain clean. All of the lessons allowed the community to ask questions and practice the habits demonstrated to reinforce the concepts and skills taught.

Community Member Interview

“On behalf of this community, I thank the team for providing us with this wonderful project. We are sure this will improve our lives and our health. We feel blessed to have the team with us, and we pray to God they become strengthened every day to work in this wonderful ministry.”—47-year-old School Principal, Hector Javier Alvarado

IN JESUS' NAME

Christian Witness

Water satisfies thirst of the body for a few hours, but only Christ can satisfy the spiritual thirst of the heart for a day, for a week, or even for eternity. People are more than their bodies—they are spiritual beings with spiritual needs—and the team entered the community with the goal of not only addressing the physical needs of the people, but also their spiritual needs. As a result, the team shared the gospel with 3 men, 5 women, and 530 children during their time there through Scripture reading and oral Bible storytelling. Because approximately 80 percent of individuals living in developing countries are oral preference learners, Living Water makes orality, which is a means of sharing Bible passages through storytelling, one of its core methods of sharing the message of salvation. In the community, the team shared the specific Bible stories called “Woman at the Well,” and “Jesus Walks on Water.” The team was also able to present the gospel during the story “The Wordless Book.”

The field team shared more information about the week stating, “This week has been a true blessing for everyone. We had the opportunity to share God’s Word and love through actions. We feel very blessed to be a part of this loving ministry, and we thank God for allowing us to serve him and others. The hygiene and sanitation lessons were amazing. The children and the other adults who were present really enjoyed the lessons we shared, and they learned a lot from them. They seemed really happy, and they were eager to share this information with others. The Word of God was also shared [with] every opportunity we had, and we pray and ask God to give each community member the desire to seek God. We know that God will work in their hearts, and the seed of love that has been planted in their hearts will grow.” With the message of Christ shared, the students now have the information they need to have their todays and their forevers transformed.

PHOTOS



The local surface water that left the students sick with diseases that interrupted their learning and threatened their health.



The field team drilled to 33 meters deep to access a safe aquifer.



A close-up view of the plaque secured to the well platform.



Some of the local water caretakers stand by the STT members.



A community member pumps some of the first drops of safe water from the new well.



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The STT members share information about safe hygiene and sanitation with the students at Barrio El Centro School.



While teaching about safe hygiene and sanitation, the STT members and field team were also able to share the gospel of Christ through oral Bible storytelling.



The team and community thank God for the well at the dedication ceremony.



The students gather for the well dedication ceremony.



The team shared the gospel at the well dedication ceremony through prayer and Scripture reading.



The students celebrate their gift of safe water. Thank you, Calvary Baptist Church, for providing such an essential gift.