



MINI DTS – CELEBRATING THREE GRADUATES

Congratulations to Heather Garner, Jeanette Martens, and Carole Rigg, the first students to participate in a Mini DTS at *Gleanings for the Hungry*. On November 13, we celebrated the success of their four-week lecture phase and eight-day outreach to Guatemala, which ended with another week of debriefing and re-entry here at *Gleanings*. The graduation ceremony was led by DTS director Bev McCallum, who said, “This is the real deal. God honors the ‘Yes.’” Originally called the Quilter’s DTS, the accelerated program was designed to appeal to mature students. “God downloaded the idea to me, and it was successful,” Bev said. “It seemed crazy to do an eight-week Mini DTS, but it was such a good thing. Even with a low number of students and a condensed program, the women experienced all the growth and challenges of a full DTS. We saw transformation. God is so faithful.”

“Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. And we all, who with unveiled faces contemplate the Lord’s glory, are being transformed into his image with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.”

2 Corinthians 3:17-18

Middle School Students Help Deliver Hams

Gleanings volunteers, young and old, were able to give away food to our neighbors this past Thanksgiving. Middle school students from *Bethany School* in Long Beach participated in distributing the food. “The Sultana outreach was a worldview changer,” said one student on Friday morning. *Gleanings* was able to help transport and distribute hams, vegetables, fresh greens, and other food items. Our neighbors were grateful for the food. In the book of Matthew, Jesus says, “*Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments*” (Matthew 22:37-40). *Gleanings for the Hungry* values hearts being made soft towards the poor, and appreciates the prayers and partnership as we care for our neighbors.



country Report GUATEMALA



- Mini DTS Outreach

The following report is the first-hand experience of three women who handed out **Gleanings** soup mix, dried peaches, and quilts in Guatemala in November 2025. A team of five women went to Guatemala for eight days of outreach. The students were Carole Rigg, Jeanette Martens, and Heather Garner. They were led and accompanied by **Gleanings** staff members Stephanie Goei and Shelly Warner.

Carole: “Praise goes to the Lord for making possible participation in this mini DTS. He made clear the “Do It” and followed that up with provision for the “How.” He further blessed through the assigned outreach with **Hope of the Nations Guatemala**, which was a longtime dream fulfilled. Billy and Eric drive many, many hours to take provisions and words of encouragement to these pastors who have great needs. The Lord is glorified as they reach out to these pastors. God granted us the opportunity to minister in three communities, one being a cemetery where families had built their makeshift homes on the outskirts. God was glorified as boxes of soup mix and peaches were lifted from the trucks, a provision desperately needed. There was joy in the faces of adults and children alike. God’s love and care was evident for them in the giving of these supplies. We saw God

work as the children and mothers attentively listened to the Bible stories and lessons. Their faces lit up with joy while working on the related craft, the mothers as enthusiastically as the children. God’s love poured over them through gifts of hygiene kits, dresses, candy, and more.



Many of these families were suffering from grief, illness, and loss. God showered His love upon them during those visits.”

Jeanette: “We visited four villages.

Billy and his daughter Nevi, who work with Eric and Lisa at Hope of the Nations Guatemala, were our drivers and interpreters. At each village, we brought **Gleanings** soup mix, quilts, toys, candy, and God’s love through Bible stories, crafts, smiles, and lots of hugs. The best part of each visit was the hugs from the kids. It was a joy to watch them play with bubbles and soccer balls. The most difficult thing was not being able to speak the language, seeing the empty cupboards in their houses, and meeting several minors who were expecting or had young babies. We visited a young widow’s home—one that Eric Rivera

and **Hope of the Nations** had built for her. She converted the third bedroom into a nail salon, which now enabled her to support her three children.”

Heather: “We were overjoyed as we watched the Holy Spirit touch nine or ten little children who closed their eyes, bowed their heads, folded their hands, and asked Jesus into their hearts. It was an incredible experience. I know we aren’t going to solve all of their problems with a one-week mission trip. But for one day, the people, especially the children, forgot about the struggles of real life and were allowed to be just children. That day they experienced a God who deeply loves them and cares so much about them that he would send four very mature ladies and one very jubilant young lady to show them love.”

PRAYER REQUESTS:

- Please pray for the Christian leader in the village who is in a wheelchair. She desperately wants God to heal her so she can walk again.
 - Please pray for the children who recently lost their mother and grandmother.
 - Please pray for people in the villages who are suffering from illness and do not have the resources necessary for recovery.
 - Please pray for encouragement for the ministry of **Hope of the Nations Guatemala**.
- Dios le Bendiga. God Bless You.

Director's Corner



We have been studying Hebrews in our Wednesday morning Bible study. In chapter 11 there is a list of Biblical heroes who have gone before us and given us an example of faith in action. Without faith it is impossible to please God (Heb. 11:6). As important as faith is, Paul writes in 1 Cor.13 that even though we strive to grow in faith it does us no good if we don’t have love. We strive to be a community of faith. We value the confidence in what we hope for and the assurance about what we do not see. At the same time, we are aware that love is the essence of the way of Jesus because He is LOVE. This is our goal in 2026 - to be radical lovers of God and people. And to grow in faith as a community.

I hope you experience God’s heavenly love and “mountain moving” faith in Jesus in 2026. Blessings to you.

Fritz Meier