



Rocsana's Hope

www.rocsanashope.org

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Now The REAL Work Begins



Stan, Rocsana, and Paola

It was that single moment, that moment when I first looked into the eyes of a precious orphan, that God has used to bring us to this moment and at such a time as this. It all goes back to my very first visit ever to Guatemala. You are familiar with the story. I stood on the porch and noticed Paola was standing beside me. She had a hold of my arm. I turned to look at her and I saw as she looked at me a depth of love, care, compassion, and appreciation that I cannot say I have ever seen before. In that amazing moment God began to change my heart. It was as if He said "This is who I am going to ask you to help."

At the time I had no idea of the journey that lie ahead or all the twists and turns we have experienced on that journey. But still, here we are on the cusp of seeing what has been a "vision" for almost a year now finally become a reality. I had no idea when I went to Guatemala the first time that I would find these amazing kids whom I would immediately bond with, come home and within a year begin the process of selling all that we had to go there full-time, live there helping Rocsana and Paola, return to the US, then have God lead us to begin this amazing and one-of-a-kind ministry in Guatemala. The girls now represent only the beginning. Through them God showed us a need that is simply, according to the Guatemalan government, not being met at all. We were told of a girl that left one orphanage on her 18th birthday and within a week she had been killed by her distant family who tried to sell her for sex. She refused and paid the price. There are hundreds if not thousands of young ladies who face similar circumstances. As we

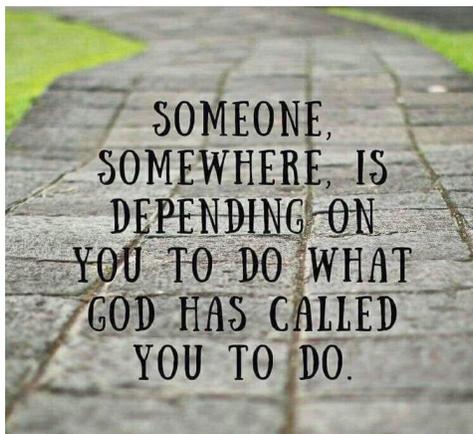
First New Girl Waiting?

From our Guatemalan Coordinator, Karyn:

"I had an appointment with Myrna Contreras who is the Director of the Independent Life Governmental Program for the government orphanages here in our country last week in San Lucas because she was interested in visiting Rocsana's Hope, but I told her that we would need to wait until February when you got here. The e-mail she sent to us is because when we got together last week she talked to me about a young lady that is about to leave the orphanage and she wants her to be the first girl to apply to our program. The girl will turn 18 in February but the Guatemalan Government will let her stay at the orphanage until her request is approved by Rocsana's Hope! Isn't that amazing? The ministry is changing even the ways issues have been treated in the past! So, Myrna told the girl 'Be patient, Honey, God is interested in your future and has opened a door for you. We just need to wait a little to get the reply from him that we need'.



How does this sound? We haven't opened yet and we have our first girl's request!! I see God smiling because there is a lot of work to do!!"



are now finally ready to take over the house and begin getting it ready, already we are getting requests for the first girls to enter our program. Above you can read a note from Karyn Perez, who has been working with us on getting everything ready for our arrival in Guatemala. Even though we probably will not have our grand opening for a few months until we get the house fully ready, already God is sending girls who are in desperate need of our help our way. We plan to meet this precious young lady within days of our arrival in Guatemala.

The most amazing thing about this is that for almost a year now, as a part of the vision God has given to us, I have seen the faces of precious Guatemalan young ladies who need help in my mind's eye. I don't mean to sound too esoteric or anything, but I can simply see faces in my mind of kids in need and God has given me this lion's heart to help them.

Honestly, I have never known this level of passion or vision for anything like this, nor did I ever see myself leading an organization like this, but at the same time I can now look at the entirety of my life and see God's hand at work in me to prepare me for this single task. Everything that has happened in my life up to this point, God has used to prepare me for what we are doing now.

For those of you who have gotten behind us and caught the vision, I cannot say thank you enough. You have stood with us or just joined us and have believed in what we are doing enough to invest your prayers and resources in order to help us. But it has only just begun. Now the REAL work is getting ready to start and we are going to need those prayers more than ever. Pray for us with fervency and determination that God will empower us to see these lives changed.