

## **Introduction**

Hello, pastor and church family, my name is Juan Gutierrez! I am 23 years old and am currently a single missionary on deputation to go to the country of Honduras in Central America. Being born and raised in Honduras, Honduras is more than a mission field to me. It is my home for which I am very burdened to reach for the Gospel.

## **Salvation Testimony**

I remember getting saved in a car with my dad when I was six years old. Two years later, I got baptized in a church member's swimming pool. However, when my dad started a series on Revelation, I started having second thoughts of my salvation but was afraid of revealing them due to the embarrassment of being an unsaved "pastor's son." At thirteen, on April 1, 2015, I couldn't resist any longer and got reassurance of my salvation. That same year, a youth camp was held in Honduras with the theme "Christ is looking for laborers." On one of the nights of the camp, the speaker, who was a national pastor, started tearfully expressing the need for more preachers in Honduras. That day, I surrendered to full-time Christian service.

## **Preparation and Experience**

After God's call to ministry, I felt that I needed to find a place to prepare for the ministry. After considering different colleges, God led me to go to Hyles-Anderson College to initiate my preparation for ministry. While there, I taught a Sunday School class, participated in soul winning every Saturday, played music specials for church and chapel, and was bus captain and driver for my bus route in the south side of Chicago. Before coming to college, I had served in my local church in Honduras by soul winning, teaching Sunday school (three years), and playing music for congregational singing and special music.

## **Field Information**

Honduras is Spanish-speaking country in the heart of Central America. It is known for coffee exports and for being the home of American banana companies and military bases during the twentieth century. The main religion in Honduras is Roman Catholicism with over 60% of the population claiming to practice the religion. However, other religious groups have moved into the country in recent years such as Pentecostals, Neo-Evangelicals, Mormons, Jehovah's Witnesses, and Seventh Day Adventists. These groups fill in most of the other forty percent of population. Praise the Lord, many good churches have sprung up in different parts of the country. However, with Honduras having the world's fourth highest crime rate and fifth highest murder rate, missionaries are still very much needed in this part of the world, especially among the youth. About half of Honduras' families grow up without a father in the home, which contributes greatly to the crime and poverty of the nation. The solution to this problem is not a politician or more money but the Gospel of Jesus Christ!

## **Ministry Goals**

The short-term goal is to help at Iglesia Bautista Capital (Capital Baptist Church), a church started by my dad, veteran missionary Osmin Gutierrez. While there, I will be teaching and partly administrating at the Christian school started by the church. I will also participate in the church's music and soul winning ministries.

The long-term goal is to start my own family and begin a new work in another part of Honduras. I also desire to start a music ministry to further teach Hondurans the importance of God-honoring music in the local church. My dream is to see Honduras become a base for world missions locally and throughout the rest the world!

## **Contact Information**

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