



Solid Rock Missions

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Thank You, Jose Ramon

What is it like to have thousands of children to care for, educate, disciple and occasionally discipline? With all of the work and stress involved, we are really surprised that this person does not have a head full of gray hair or has hair at all. Thank God we have



had a man like Jose Ramon Rodriguez in this role.

Jose Ramon has been with the CCED School in San Juan since it started in 1995. Jose Ramon, with his wife Yoselin at his side, have taken the school from about 170 students in four grades to a school of 1280 students through grade twelve. They have introduced new programs, and they have been able to give award winning educations to students who could not afford the excellent education they receive.

Most important is they have been involved in sharing Christ's love with the students and their families. They are making a difference in helping Dominican families.

The time has come for a change. Jose Ramon has been pastoring a church for several years. Along with that he has been working on a degree in psychology. He is now ready to use those talents fulltime for his church. We knew this day was coming. Jose Ramon has announced he will be leaving the school at the end of 2007.

This is where we could panic a

little but we feel really good that Yoselin will be taking over as director for the school. She has been preparing herself for this responsibility for a while. We want to wish Jose Ramon well as he ministers to his church and we want to wish Yoselin the best as she assumes her new role.

We want to say thank you to Jose Ramon for his service to the school. Even though he is leaving, we are sure he will still be involved because it is difficult to leave a ministry that has been so important to him. Jose Ramon and Yoselin, may God continue to bless your efforts!

It Might Be Thanksgiving But Christmas is Coming

What happened to 2007? Thanksgiving and Christmas are almost here. For us procrastinators, Christmas shopping time is getting dangerously close. Here is a request:

We need some help (or rather some funds) to provide a Christmas party and a gift for each of the children in the

schools we sponsor.

We discourage sponsors from sending personal gifts to their students because not all students get gifts. And it creates a logistics nightmare for us at SRM. Basically, we want to avoid hard feelings among students and the rejection that some students feel when they do not receive gifts. As Jose Ramon has said many

time; you have given the greatest gift by sponsoring a child in a Christian school and providing them with hope for the future.

Christmas is a special time. SRM wants to provide a Christmas party for each school including a small gift for each student whether they



are sponsored or not.

If you would like to help, please designate your monetary contribution to the "Student Gift Fund" ..

The purpose of Solid Rock Missions is to glorify God in partnerships by ministering spiritually, physically, socially and educationally to those in need, in the name of Jesus Christ.

We at Solid Rock Missions are very grateful for God's goodness and faithfulness to the ministries we work with. Lives have been touched and changed. People have been given hope as a result of hard work, faithful giving and prayer. We appreciate all of those and we thank God for

Let's Not Forget What We Are Thankful For

all of you for helping do that. We cannot do it without you.

Most special to us are the gifts we received at just the right times. There were a couple of needs that came up this year that caught us off guard. Amazingly, (or rather un-amazingly because we have seen God work before) the needs were met before we

even knew of them. This year, there were an extraordinary number of contributions designated to "use wherever needed". We are grateful God put that idea in some people's minds. Thank you for your love and care for the Dominican people. They are grateful for your help.

Why Do We Give?

“Whatever happened to the notion of giving for the sake of giving?” asked Tim Harford, columnist for *Financial Times*. “The closer you look at charitable giving, the less charitable it seems to be” A study of door-to-door fundraising campaigns, for instance found that organizations earned far more by selling lottery tickets than by asking for donations.

“This hardly suggests a world of altruists seeking to do the maximum good with their charitable cash,” says Harford. At least for some people, there’s a something-for-me/something-for-you approach to giving.

Jesus also dealt with the issue of motives for giving. When He said not to let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, He was teaching that our motives for giving to God and to others must be pure. Our response should be in response to God’s love. To encourage pure motives, Jesus instructed people to give and to do good deeds in secret with no thought to themselves.

God, who sees everything, would reward them (Matt. 6:3-4).

Our generosity should be God-centered — not to make us look good, but to please the Lord. With your next good deed, ask yourself: If I knew that no one would ever find out that I did this, would I still do it?

—Marvin Williams, *Our Daily Bread, RBC Ministries, copyright 2007, Grand Rapids, MI, reprinted by permission.*

An Added Thought

This *Daily Bread* devotional speaks volumes. We are very grateful to those of you who either give to special projects or give regularly for student sponsorships or for operational expenses. Solid Rock Missions is not into gizmos and gimmicks. We are into being good stewards of the gifts God has provided us with to minister to those less fortunate than us. Our focus is in helping the least of these in Jesus’ name. We are glad He has called us to do that.

This Thanksgiving, we want to make sure you know we are grateful for your support of this ministry.

Student Letters

Hello. How are you? I hope you are well. To begin, I just turned 15 but I did not have a good day that day. I have a cold and so they did not celebrate for me that day. Well, in my house there are not sufficient funds. My mom is a housewife and my dad works in a workshop of a man named Pedro. I have 2 sisters. I am in the 10th grade. I love to sing and I would like to meet you soon. My family’s mode of transportation is a Yamaha X100 motorcycle and we can never all fit on it at the same time. Dad always has to devise a way to take us to school. One of my qualities is that I am very thin. I

have anemia and low hemoglobin. Mom says since there is nothing for protein, I have to drink beet juice. Academically I have grades between 85-100 percent. I hope to see you soon.

-Karenny

Editor’s Note: Karenny is one of over one-thousand students we have sponsored in four different schools in the Dominican Republic. We still have more students needing to be sponsored. You can sponsor a child on our website or by calling 1-888-Solid Rock.

2008 Dominican Republic Calendar

Jan 3-13	Highland Community Church, Wausau, WI
Jan 5-13	Gaylord Rotary Club, Gaylord, MI
Jan 12-19	Gaylord Home School, Gaylord, MI
Jan 12-19	Leah Blankenship Team, Danville, PA
Jan 12-19	Northwoods Community Church, Peoria, IL
Jan 19-26	First Presbyterian Church, Gainesville, GA
Jan 19-26	Volunteers in Medical Missions, Seneca, SC
Jan 26-Feb 2	First Presbyterian Church, Spartanburg, SC
Feb 2-9	First Presbyterian Church, Spartanburg, SC
Feb 9-16	Second Presbyterian Church, Roanoke, VA
Feb 16-24	Geisinger Medical Center, Danville, PA
Feb 16-24	Northwoods Community Church, Peoria, IL
Feb 16-24	Dr. Bernardi Team, Bryan, OH
Feb 15-25	Jim Goble Team, Lansing, MI
Feb 23-Mar 3	Crossway Christian Church, Nashua, NH
Mar 1-8	Dr. Pat Fox Team, Schenectady, NY
Mar 1-8	Owens College, Toledo, OH
Mar 8-15	Dr. Tony Uribes’ Team, Wauseon, OH
Mar 15-22	Dr. Lynn Hughes’ Team, Charlotte, NC
Mar 15-22	Northwest Ohio Community College, Archbold, OH
Mar 15-22	Habitat for Humanity, Davidson, NC
Mar 22-29	Northwest Ohio Team, Bryan, OH
Mar 29-Apr 5	Trinity United Methodist Church, Lansing, MI
May 17-24	Grace Lutheran Church, Hendersonville, SC
Jun 14-21	Dr. Stephanie Noceti-Dunphy Team, Toledo, OH
Jun 21-28	Dr. Tom Roberts’ Team, Spartanburg, SC
Jun 28-Jul 5	Second Presbyterian Church, Roanoke, VA
Jul 5-12	Evangelical Mennonite Church, Berne, IN
Jul 12-19	True North Church, Wauseon, OH
Jul 19-26	True North Church, Wauseon, OH
Jul 26-Aug 2	St. Mark’s Lutheran Church, Asheville, NC
Aug 2-9	The Ascent Youth Team, Golden, CO
Oct 4-11	Dr. Jim Crook’s Team, Sylacauga, AL
Oct 18-25	Brookside Community Church, Fort Wayne, IN
Dec 6-13	Pomeroy/Van Vleet Team, Portland, MA/Tempe, AZ

If you would like to book a team at the guesthouse or other locations where we work in the Dominican Republic, please contact our office at 419-335-8046 or e-mail us at srm@solidrockmissions.org.

In Loving Memory....

Margaret Schumacher
Herbert Kingsbury
Leon D. Rupp

Gifts to Solid Rock Missions are tax-deductible.

