

God Be Glorified

How Hondurans Are Hearing the Gospel Through **Short-Term** Missions

cvm.org/glorified

CVM sends out Short-Term Mission volunteers to over 25 countries each year sharing the love of Christ and the Gospel through veterinary care. This year, we are projecting that more than 675 volunteers will serve

through CVM, the largest number in our history. CVM is blessed to have devoted trip leaders like Dr. Charles Cobb who heard the call to go and went to serve.

Here is his story:

"So many people lost and without hope; so many opportunities to serve. How do you identify where God is calling you? For me, it was Honduras. A Central American country of ~10 million people, Honduras is considered one of the poorest countries in the Western Hemisphere. Many rural residents depend on their livestock to provide enough for them to eat and live. Many are subsistence farmers living in extreme poverty. All need the Gospel.

I first went to Honduras in the late 1990s to serve with CVM through the work of Honduras Outreach International, an organization that maintains a large ministry in the Agalta Valley of rural Olancho. I have since returned each year with a CVM group of 10-25 team members. Each trip has displayed the power, goodness, and glory of God in the lives of Hondurans and CVM volunteers. One year stands out: Honduras had experienced such a widespread drought across the country that several thousand head of livestock had died in the weeks prior to our trip. As our team began to work, residents asked that we join them in asking God for rain, and we gladly agreed. Shortly thereafter, the rain came...and came. Pastures "greened up," starving cattle and horses began to gain weight, and the Agalta Valley came to life.



CVM Missions Team at HOI in Honduras



Dr. Cobb planning treatment of cattle with veterinary student

Over,

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Young Honduran girl waiting to be seen at the CVM clinic

Of course, no mission is perfect. Hardships have included missed or delayed flights, lost luggage, illnesses and injuries, rainstorms, mudslides, vehicle breakdowns, an earthquake, excessive heat, airport closures, bee stings, bat assaults, etc. Even so, God is ALWAYS sovereign, always good, always protects, and always provides! Along with veterinary work, our teams spend time with local children playing games and reading Bible stories, connecting with their parents, and helping our hosts. Seeing the joy when someone receives their first Bible, praying with residents, worshiping with locals, sharing personal testimonies and the Gospel, and marveling at God's creation through the mountains, valleys, waterfalls, and beaches of Honduras are just a few of the rewards that God graciously provides. In difficult times, experiencing the warm hospitality and joy of Honduran people who have little, but are willing to share what they have, is quite humbling.

I believe that God is glorified when believers have ears to hear and eyes to see the needs around them and... go. By responding, they get to see the hand of God at work and experience great spiritual growth themselves. Many return year after year, and some transition to serve in long-term missions, but all return home changed by their

service. I'm blessed to have been used over the years and am thankful to God that He enables me to continue to participate in veterinary missions."

Dr. Charles Cobb, an LSU Graduate (1978), has led and volunteered on over 30 STM trips to Honduras and other Central American locations, and has worked in private practice, the military, and with the USDA. Read the full story by Dr. Charles Cobb at cvm.org/glorified.

Volunteers pay or raise their own support in order to serve, but the CVM Short-Term Mission program relies on the support of donors who selflessly give to train, organize, and send these volunteers out. A gift to CVM helps to financially support those God has called to take the Gospel to the ends of the earth through veterinary medicine.

Dr. Lee Myers Chief Executive Officer

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