



Manos de Dios, Hands of God Ministries Summer 2019 Newsletter

*Facilitating education for Native youth and
advocating for LIFE*



The blessing of host families!

God provides two homes for Desert Christian HS students!



*What is the most important factor
to consider when seeking host*

**Yosh (Naomi's mom), Naomi, Cora and
Jerry (host parents)**

*families for young ladies coming from the White Mountain Apache Reservation to
go to school at Desert Christian? We asked ourselves that question and prayed. We
sensed the answer: "A Spirit-led home that will encourage the girls to love and*



**(right to left) Naomi with host
sisters Rachel and Anna**

*follow Jesus!" And God orchestrated two homes
that provide this...and more! Naomi is being
hosted by Cora and Jerry and their FOUR
daughters! They are all active in the leadership of
youth programs at their church. Their two eldest
daughters who attend Desert Christian HS also,
invited Naomi to share their bedroom! Wow! How
many teenage girls are willing to do that? What a
blessing!*

(Host family stories continued on page 2)

God provides host for Thearsa....against all odds.

At the end of last school year Thearsa made some poor choices. Her mom came to Tucson and took her back to their Reservation home. At first she was hard-hearted, as we sometimes are when we have been caught in sin. Soon, Thearsa softened and said she would like to come back to Desert Christian HS. We talked with the headmaster and HS principal. There would need to be some changes in her behavior and some accountability measures put in place. Lucy met with Thearsa and her mother, Yosh, throughout the month of July.

Lucy explained the conditions for returning to school, including being on probation. Lucy and Thearsa met alone to talk and pray. The tears flowed. Thearsa repented with heartfelt prayer. She committed to do what it takes to come back to

“If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.”

1 John 1:9

Desert. Both Thearsa and Yosh believe that the education being provided for Thearsa (and Naomi) at Desert Christian School is such a blessing and the very best possible. Lucy and Thearsa met to read and pray together several more times. Now, to find a host family! We weren't able to put the word out to the school as Thearsa is on probation. We sensed that God wanted us to trust in Him alone. We prayed and asked others to pray...specifically women from the church that Naomi's host family attend, sensing that God wanted Thearsa (a junior) and Naomi (a sophomore) in the same youth group this year. At the last minute God provided a wonderful host – a single woman with a heart for teenage girls! What an ideal place for Thearsa as she learns to get back on track!

Thank you, Jesus! You are our great provider!



Thearsa with her new host, Abby

“Now to Him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, to Him be glory...”

Ephesians 3:20-21a

Pro-Love Tucson stays the course, even in the heat!



Maya and Lucy, Pro-Love volunteers, wait to offer hope and help to clients making a pregnancy decision at the local abortion clinic.

“For truly, I say to you, if you have faith like a grain of mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, ‘Move from here to there,’ and it will move, and nothing will be impossible for you.” -Jesus Matthew 17:20

Often, talking with and praying for clients who are considering an abortion it feels like a mountain! But, every time we go to be a prayerful, peaceful presence on that sidewalk, we trust that God will soften hearts, reveal truth and draw people to Himself. Even when women are feeling fearful, lost, confused and/or angry God can and does reveal His love and power in their difficult situation. When passers-by are angry or clients (or their partners) are rude, we remember the precious babies who have been born (like Olivia shown in photo here!) to mothers we met coming for an abortion...who changed their mind and chose life for their child as well as for themselves! Praise God!

Thank you for your prayers and support of this life-saving ministry facilitated by Manos de Dios. For more information go to <https://www.prolovetucson.com/>
To be added to our weekly prayer email list send a request to Lucy4ProLove@gmail.com



**Pro-Love baby, Olivia!
Born 6-1-19**

“I am the way, the truth and the life” - Jesus

How we present ourselves....by Dennis

It has been said, that for some the only contact they may have with Jesus is when they meet one of His followers. Or how about the song, "They will know we are Christians by our love?" On the negative side, Matthew 7:15-20 tells us that false teachers (and I believe false believers are associated in this group) will be known by their "bad fruit."

As Christ-followers we are to produce good fruit, love God and our neighbors, and be slow to anger and quick to forgive. We are not to let any unwholesome talk come out of our mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up...and do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, we are to, in humility, value others above ourselves, looking out for the interests of others. "If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all, repay no one evil for evil, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, let all that you do be done in love, and do nothing from rivalry or conceit." Also, remember a soft answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger.

This is a tall order and one that some of us fail miserably but, it is one that we must strive to abide by if we are true followers of Jesus. I bring this up because of the condition of society at this point in time. In and out of politics there are the darkest evil actions and words coming out of our mouths and hands that must make Satan jump for joy. And many of us Christians have seriously drifted away from the request that Jesus asks us to follow, as I have listed above. Some Christ-followers at political rallies lose their cool and resort to name-calling, twisting the facts, showing anger and hatred toward the opponents. They forget what type of example they are setting.

We can't leave out the abortion issue and the antics there on both sides. The pro-abortion people resort to telling lies concerning the pro-life people's beliefs. They are aggressive, in-your-face and very strong-willed, and will use any tactic to intimidate the other side, such as profanity, hand gestures, screaming and threats of violence. We should and can expect those actions because they do not have the love of Jesus in their hearts and scripture tells us we will be persecuted.

I wish I could say all Christian pro-life followers are not like that, but I can't. Some have resorted to the same methods of operation as the pro-abortion people. They even post large graphic signs of aborted babies, call the women going in for abortions baby killers and murders, plus use a wide assortment of other language that is offensive and condemning to the clients and the pro-abortion supporters.

Some Christians say this type of action is needed and does get women to turn around and not go through with the abortion. This may be so, but I wonder how often they change their minds or do they just wait until the pro-life protesters are not there and then return.

I wonder what Jesus thinks about these un-Christ-like actions. And I can say they are not Christ-like because they do not follow the guidelines of what we Christians are to follow (see above comments in bold).

I will end with the reminder that if we say we belong to Jesus, believe in Him, want to follow Him and are new creations, we need to act like it in all we think, do and say, both in public and in private! If we do this, then those who don't know Jesus (yet!) will truly know we are Christians by our LOVE!



Thearsa was selected to the White Mountain Apache Youth Council as a representative from her district. She was sworn in (witnessed by her mom and niece, Delilah) agreeing to be law-abiding, not use illegal drugs or alcohol and display sound leadership characteristics. We are proud of you, Thearsa!



Every sexual issue is a spiritual issue*....*by Lucy*

As we continue to build relationships with young women the topic of sexuality and intimacy comes up over and over. Whether it is on the sidewalk outside of Planned Parenthood or when checking in with Riscilla on the Reservation or walking along side Thearsa and Naomi while they go through high school...the topic comes up. God's plan for intimacy is not talked about in the world and is often mis-understood. A book that has helped me better understand and communicate about this all-important topic is Rethinking Sexuality, God's Design and Why it Matters by Dr. Juli Slattery. Dr. Slattery points out that we are created for intimacy and God uses



Riscilla# and Lucy met on the Rez for picnic and God time this summer

this desire to show our need for Him. This book and the workbook Sex and Single Girl help us walk through what the Bible says about our sexuality, temptation, marriage, and more! It is a great book to go through with singles (as we're doing with Riscilla and Thearsa), allowing them to read, discuss and then apply what God's Word says to them about their intimacy choices. As married people and singles we all are broken and struggle with temptation. We are at different stages, but we all need God's grace, wisdom,

direction and love to navigate in this world. For more helpful direction check out the Authentic Intimacy website which includes a blog and podcast.

<https://www.AuthenticIntimacy.com/> (#Riscilla is planning to attend Med Tech school in Mesa to study to be a Medical Assistant. Please pray for strength and provision for Riscilla.)

****Why is sexuality important to God? Why does the Bible speak so strongly against sexual immorality and divorce? Because sexuality is a holy metaphor of a God who invites us into covenant with Himself. God created you as a sexual person in order to unlock the mystery of knowing an invisible God. - Dr. Juli Slattery Rethinking Sexuality, page 53.***

Outstanding Servant Award

Each month Romans 12 Ministries designates an "Outstanding Servant" in the Tucson area. July's recipient was Lucy Smith of Manos de Dios/Pro-Love Tucson ministries. A dinner was given in Lucy's (and Dennis') honor to celebrate, share ministry testimonies and award a \$2000 donation to a ministry of their choice. Manos de Dios/Pro-Love Tucson received the donation and God is glorified as these life-giving ministries are financially equipped to continue what God is calling them to do!

In attendance at the dinner on August 6th were the Roman's 12 Ministry staff, Lucy's Dad and daughter, nominator Peggy & hubby Dean, and four key volunteers with Pro-Love Tucson sidewalk advocates ministry.

Thank you to Romans 12 Ministries and may God bless you as you encourage pastors and ministry leaders. For more information go to

Romans12Ministries.org



Dennis, Lucy, Cynthia (Pro-Love volunteer), Megan (our daughter) and Peggy (who nominated Lucy for this award) at celebration dinner



Ron Smith, Romans 12 Director of Ministry Services (and past host dad!) and Holly Munro, wife of Romans 12 Executive Director, congratulate Lucy at celebration dinner.

Contact us!

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Tax-deductible contributions may be sent to:

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ManosdeDios.org

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