



# Manos de Dios, Hands of God Ministries

*Sharing the message of Jesus with indigenous people in northern Arizona and Mexico*

## October 2012 Newsletter



### ***Cameron, one of the girls in our dorm, chooses to be baptized!***

What a joy to have one of our students want to make a public confession that she has chosen to follow Jesus! Cameron, 14, was baptized in a cold AICM (American Indian Christian Mission) pool by Lucy on October 22nd. Dennis spoke about what it means to be obedient to Jesus and reminded us



that baptism is one step of obedience. This event spurred lots of conversation about what it means to be a Christ-follower.

All the staff at AICM take 'disciple-making' of these students very seriously. We try to take every opportunity to speak into their lives, model living a Spirit-led life, and teach how to have a personal walk with the Lord. What a blessing to be in a place that we can teach and speak openly about Jesus! ***Please pray for Cameron and the other students! It is a huge challenge to break the habits of lives lived on the reservation. As for all of us, learning to walk in the Spirit instead of the flesh is very difficult!\****



**\* "Those who belong to Christ Jesus have nailed the passions and desires of their sinful nature to His cross and crucified them there. Since we are living by the Spirit, let us follow the Spirit's leading in every part of our lives."**

**Galatians 5: 24-25 (NLT)**

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**Violence.** It is a reality in the families of our students.

There is so much alcohol abuse, dysfunctional relationships, hurting hearts, neglect and wickedness. Our girls constantly ask for prayer for their families. Sometimes they come back from the weekends at home with bruises. Our hearts break to hear the stories. Please join us in praying for the Native Americans in our state and country. We are praying that the power of Jesus' name will break the chains that have held Natives in bondage for so long. We are praying for a spirit of repentance and reconciliation which will lead to the power of THE TRUTH...about who God is, who they are and who others are. Amen!

*“The scroll of Isaiah the prophet was handed to Him (Jesus). He unrolled the scroll and found the place where this was written:*

*‘The Spirit of the LORD is upon me,  
for He has anointed me to bring Good News  
to the poor.*

*He has sent me to proclaim that captives will  
be released,  
that the blind will see, that the oppressed  
will be set free,  
and that the time of the LORD’s favor has  
come.”*

*Luke 4:17-19 (NLT)*

***“Yes, Jesus, please set the captives and oppressed FREE.  
Restore families to live as You have planned! Open their  
eyes to Your love, mercy and grace and draw them to  
Yourself, Lord. Protect these precious children by the  
power of Your name! Please put a hedge of protection  
around our students when they are home that no injury  
will come to them. Help them learn to turn to You in  
times of fear, anger, and hopelessness. May You be their  
EVERYTHING, Jesus! Amen”***



**Tia and Chaco**



**AICM middle school students  
participate in a ‘march against  
domestic violence’**



**Jacy and Drelyn enjoy  
playing outside**



**Once a week we have  
‘family style’ dinner in our  
dorm. Our girls love to eat!**



## Our girls' first field trip ...by Dennis

One of Lucy's and my goals is to expose our girls to the world off the Reservation and show them the many wonderful and fulfilling opportunities that are available to them. And by exposing them to these new opportunities they will realize the need and demand for a good education. The first field trip was for the two older girls in our dorm; Cameron and Riscilla, both 8th graders.

While doing research, I found just the right first step in exposing them to the outside world and it was at Northern Arizona University (NAU). They have a wonderful Native American Culture Center on campus which offers numerous services to American Indian students. I was able to contact the Peers/Mentor Program Director and set up an appointment for a tour of the campus, information on what is available for Native Americans, and the different assistance programs they offer. Julia (an Apache from the San Carlos Reservation and 4th year student) was our guide and she was the perfect fit.



***Riscilla and Cameron enjoy lunch at a restaurant before tour of NAU campus***

Julia told the girls about her life of struggle on the San Carlos Rez: the drinking, drugs, teenage pregnancy and the lack of determination for a better life of many of her friends. She also told of the many struggles she faced on campus. She testified that there are no struggles that she (or they) could not overcome with determination. Just what I wanted our girls to hear! Thank you, Lord, for sending Julia to be our guide!



***Lucy, Cameron, and Riscilla with NAU student and campus tour guide, Julia King***

It was a successful trip. The girls enjoyed a good meal at a nice restaurant, got to see other young people in a school setting and how they conducted themselves, were exposed to the importance of a good education, and were able to listen to and ask questions and get answers from a fellow Apache that 'has been there'!

I could tell they were a little hesitant to be out in the world and out of their comfort zone; however, they survived and I they learned something beneficial from the experience.

We thank the AICM school and our financial supporters for making this trip possible! Thank you! We plan to do more field trips that are age- and educationally-appropriate.

***Ka Dish Day (farewell/until we meet again in Western Apache) Dennis [Dennis@ManosdeDios.org](mailto:Dennis@ManosdeDios.org)***



# Learning to Quilt!



Jacy, Drelyn and Riscilla (not shown) learn to sew from ladies in Springerville: Peggy, Karen, Sharon and Debbie (not shown).

What a gift this is to three of our girls!

Women from the Calvary Hills Christian Fellowship are teaching three of our girls, Drelyn, Riscilla and Jacy, to sew and make a 'jelly roll' quilt. We drive over to Springerville (an hour trip each way) on Wednesday afternoons. In Karen's quilting studio they provide dinner, materials, sewing machines and loving instruction. Our girls are not only learning to quilt but also the value of women teaching each other. Karen takes every opportunity to speak with our girls about the Lord and challenges them to dream big! The time in Springerville is a blessing, but an unexpected joy is the conversations we have in the van on the drive to and from our 'classes'. Being in an informal environment draws the girls out and they have shared many stories about their lives and families.

*Thank you and love to Karen, Debbie, Sharon and Peggy!*



## Challenges....by Dennis

We have been asking you to pray for our girls and the many challenges they face. We have also been asking you to pray for us because we need patience, direction, and the ability to love and discipline our girls all at the same time.

This Friday we were reminded of the challenges we face from a distant foe: some of the children's parents/guardians and the difficulty they can add to the children's well-being. One parent that picked up one of our girls was not using good judgment and was possibly placing the child in a serious/dangerous situation by taking her home.

We can't forget the parents'/guardians' role in their child's lives and we need to constantly pray for them. Prayer is needed for them to seek God's will for their child's life, for proper discernment and direction as to what is best for the child, and the wisdom to put the child's safety, well-being and security above all else (including their own). Sadly, this does not happen very often.

The children need protection from the forces of evil and many times from the adults around them. Please continue to pray and pray often; the situation is out of our hands....and only in God's.

His servant, Dennis

**For the LORD is good.  
His unfailing love continues  
forever,  
and His faithfulness continues to  
each generation.  
*Psalms 100:5 (NLT)***



The "One Thing Girls"  
current favorite song....

### **One Thing Remains** (Lyrics)

**Your love never fails  
It never gives up  
It never runs out on me  
(Chorus: repeat x3)**

**Your love  
Never gives up on me**

**And it's higher than the  
mountains that I face  
And it's stronger than the power  
of the grave  
And it's constant in the trial and  
the change  
This one thing remains**

**This one thing remains  
This one thing remains**

**repeat chorus....  
Your love**

**And on and on and on and on it  
goes  
Yes, it overwhelms and satisfies  
my soul  
And I never, ever, have to be  
afraid**

**This one thing remains  
This one thing remains**

**Your love**







**Our first SNOW in the White Mountains!**

**Lucy and Chaco enjoy a brisk walk in the woods near our AICM dorm-home.**

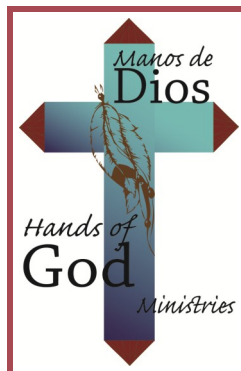
*Thank you for your support!  
Lucy and Dennis*

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## The Whole Armor of God

Put on all the armor that God gives you, so that you will be able to stand up against the Devil's evil tricks. For we are not fighting against human beings but against the wicked spiritual forces in the heavenly world, the rulers, authorities, and cosmic powers of this dark age. So put on God's armor now! Then when the evil day comes, you will be able to resist the enemy's attacks; and after fighting to the end, you will still hold your ground.

So stand ready, with TRUTH as a belt tight around your waist, with RIGHTEOUSNESS as your breastplate, and as your shoes the readiness to announce the Good News of peace. At all times carry FAITH as a shield; for with it you will be able to put out all the burning arrows shot by the Evil One. And accept SALVATION as a helmet, and the WORD OF GOD as the sword which the Spirit gives you.



**Ephesians 6:11-17**

One of the many tools we use in our daily devotions to teach God's truths.

**Amen!**