



# Manos de Dios, Hands of God Ministries

## March 2014 Newsletter



### *Girls (and a mom) come visit Desert Christian Schools*



*Naomi, mom Yosh, and Thearsa*

***\*“Yahweh! The Lord!  
The God of  
compassion and  
mercy! I am slow to  
anger and filled with  
unfailing love and  
faithfulness.”***

Exodus 34:6

We are beginning the process of bringing FOUR more beautiful Apache girls to Tucson to attend Desert Christian Schools. The lengthy application process has been completed. Spring Break for the schools in the White Mountains was an ideal time for the girls to come visit schools in Tucson. Yosh brought her two daughters to visit Desert Christian K-8 School. In the morning Thearsa and Naomi each “shadowed a buddy” to her classes and lunch. In the afternoon the girls and Yosh met with the principal, Mr. Smith. Everyone seemed pleased and we are moving forward with applying for scholarships and looking for a host family for these precious young ladies. Please join us in asking God to reveal His plan to provide a family that will meet these girls’ needs for a safe, Christian home while they go to school in Tucson. We are all trusting in our faithful God\*!

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## **Drelyn visits Desert Christian High School....by Lucy**



**Riscilla greets her sister, Drelyn, when she comes to visit the high school campus that she has attended for the past year**



**Riscilla, Drelyn, and Jacy enjoyed re-uniting! They look forward to attending Desert Christian High School together next year!**



**Tera, a student at Desert Christian High School, takes Drelyn under her wing for a day**

God had a plan for Drelyn to stay in the White Mountains one more year before coming to Tucson. She has led five fellow students to faith in Jesus while attending an Indian boarding school on the Rez. Drelyn loves Jesus and has a heart for the hurting. She easily engages people in conversations and shares with them Jesus' love, joy and grace. She uses her interest in technology and the arts to put together music videos to Christian songs; sends scripture to friends on facebook; and joined the commitment to text "God's Not Dead" to everyone on her contact list after going to see the movie by the same name!

One day in March Drelyn shadowed a student at Desert Christian High School and then joined her sister, Riscilla, at lunch time. She loved the classes, teachers and made some new friends. Dennis and I joined her for an interview in the afternoon. They asked many questions of Drelyn, determining her compatibility with Desert Christian School. They asked us questions such as, "What do you see for Drelyn's future?" Dennis shared his hope that she would finish high school, attend college and then do whatever God led her to do for a career. I shared my vision of a beautiful, strong, mature Apache woman who loves Jesus and shares His love with her people!

We enjoyed a wonderful weekend with Drelyn in Tucson. We rode bikes, had "God times" on the back porch, laughed, swam, and ate! We prayed for her classmates at the boarding school and discussed the "Discovering God" method of disciple-making. She is equipped and ready to encourage her friends to grow in their faith this last quarter of the school year. Who knows where God is going to lead THEM? *Drelyn has been accepted to attend Desert Christian High School. We are trusting God to provide a host family for her.*

***Please contact us if you or someone you know in Tucson is interested in hosting young ladies next school year !***



# Learning to Listen...by Dennis

Everyone has heard about my double (one from the front, one from the back) spine surgery in October 2013. Now, I will share “the rest of the story” and the personal impact of having three spine surgeries within six months!

The first two to three months of recovery from the October surgery went fine. I was doing the exercises I was told to do by the doctor and physical therapist. However, I did not follow their advise very closely when I started feeling better. I started working heavily. God made man to work and I needed to get back to it! Carrying a five-gallon paint bucket to our roof, painting, remodeling our new mission house, and the list went on. These actions may have had something to do with the increasingly debilitating back and leg pain I experienced in the second three months after my surgery. I finally went to see my spine surgeon in Flagstaff and was diagnosed with a severely herniated disc in my back (just above the previous surgery). I was scheduled for surgery (a laminectomy\*) two days later.

**And now, just as you accepted Christ Jesus as your Lord, you must continue to follow Him. Let your roots grow down into Him, and let your lives be built on Him. Then your faith will grow strong in the truth you were taught, and you will overflow with thankfulness.”**  
**Colossians 2:6-7 (NLT)**

Again, I have been given advice on what I can and cannot do. Will I listen? Yes! Not because it is sound secular advice, but because it is advice from Christ, my Lord.

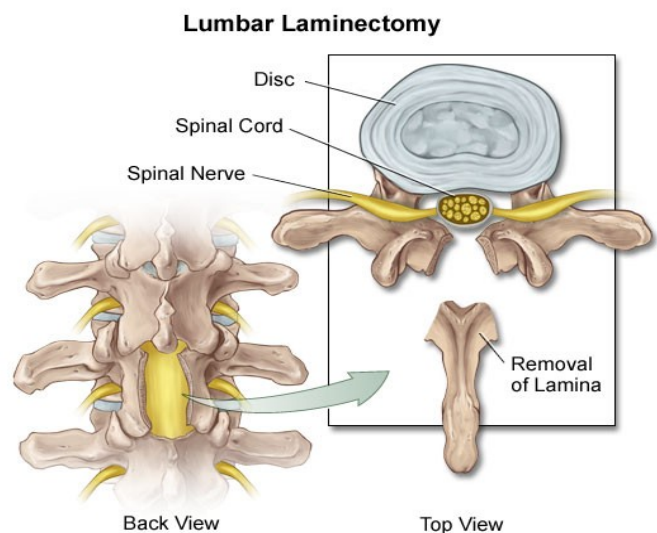
God is not punishing me with all this pain and these surgeries for not listening. But what He is doing is teaching me to listen to Him and the sound advice from others, including believers and non-believers. This period of my life is also showing me that I CAN'T GO IT ALONE! From now on I am going to have to rely on others for assistance unless I want to ruin what few discs I have left in my spine!

I am reminded of what I often told our girls in the dorm. “If you ignore sound advice and do what you want you will suffer the consequences: good or bad.” With that said, I think the Lord is teaching me to listen and obey. And “Yes, Lord, I will.”



**After surgery Dennis rides home from Flagstaff in the back of the van. Chaco keeps him company.**

\*A **laminectomy** is a surgical procedure that removes a portion of the vertebral bone called the [lamina](#). It is often used to treat a [herniated](#) disc.





**Dan, Dennis, Ry, Albert and Rick (with Chaco)**

March was a busy month for work on our new mission house in Show Low. On Friday the 7<sup>th</sup> my friends Albert, Ry, Rick, and Dan came up to start work on the remodeling project. There was painting, removing old mirror glass tiles from a wall, raising a recessed floor, adding a new floor to the living room and hallway, installing a fence and gates in the back yard, removing some of the kitchen cabinets and replacing some light fixtures. I had an excellent work crew so more was accomplished than I had hoped! I was not very much help and Dan had to miss working for 5 hours

as he waited for me while I was treated in the emergency room at the local hospital. It seems that for the past two months the recovery from my back surgery has not been going well. I have probably been doing more physical work then I am supposed to and have had severe back pain and problems walking. After 5 hours of tests, two pain perscriptions, and some antibiotics we made it back to the house where we found the guys doing fine without us! I was not much help for the rest of the trip but Dan went right back to work. Those four guys got a lot accomplished in such a short time and Lucy and I can't thank them enough.

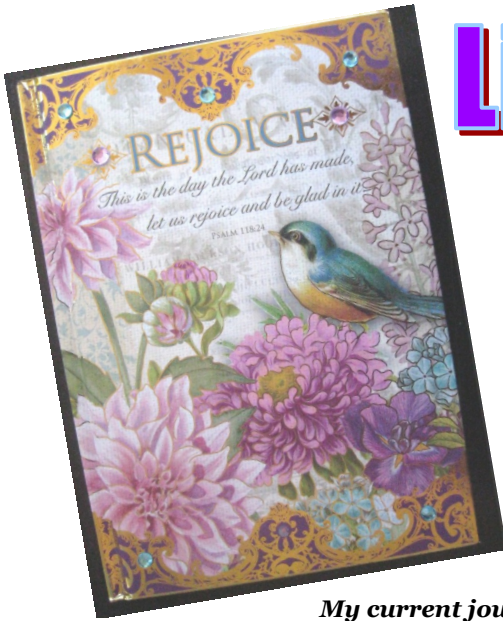
Then on Sunday the 16<sup>th</sup> my friend Jack and I headed back up north to do more remodeling while a plumber was to replace all the pipes under the house. We wound up buying a new hot water heater that was not budgeted for, but was installed at the same time. During the four days Jack and I spent working on the house we were able to finish many projects that included installing new water faucets and plumbing inside the house, installing a new floor in the kitchen and dry wall in the living room, painting, and a variety of small items that needed to be fixed or replaced. That was Jack's third work trip with me to the “Heart House” and needless to say he is a true servant and friend.

With the help and hard work from our friends, we are almost finished with the painting and will be ready (soon I hope) to install carpet and plank flooring, and then we can bring up some furniture. YEA!



**(left) Rick and Ry replace old flooring.  
(above) Dan and Albert put in fenced yard for Chaco.**





My current journal

# Listening to God by Lucy



## The Only Name

by [Big Daddy Weave](#)

from the album *Love Come To Life*

***Yours will be the only Name that matters to me***

***The only One Whose favor I seek  
The only Name that matters to me***

***Yours will be  
The friendship and affection I need  
To feel my Father smiling on me  
The only Name that matters to me***

***Yours is the Name the Name  
that has saved me  
Mercy and grace the power that forgave me  
And Your love is all I've ever needed***

***When I wake up in the Land of Glory  
And with the saints I will tell my story  
There will be one Name that I proclaim***

***Jesus, Jesus, Jesus,  
just that Name***



**My heart's desire is to hear what God is saying.** I love God so much and want to be in the center of His will. Journaling is one technique I have found useful to help tune my ears to hear God's voice. I simply begin writing what my heart wants to express to God as I begin my day. I label this "she says" in the margin of my journal. I include praise, thanks, requests and questions. I confess sins and repent, asking for God's help to turn and "go the other way". I record verses that speak to me that day and agree in prayer with them, declaring them over those I am praying for as well as for my own life. I may write out words of a worship song (see side panel). Then, comes the listening part. I apply the most helpful advice I have ever encountered. I came across it a few years ago when reading Becky Tirabassi's book Let God Talk to You. The suggestion is to write "He says" and simply wait. Then begin writing what you sense God saying. So, I purposefully write "He says" in the margin of my journal. I wait and then begin writing what God gives me. I can only say "try it"! I look back at what I have written and am amazed! What I have written is familiar as it often sounds like passages of scripture I have read. The words are loving, insightful and kind. They challenge me and are filled with truth. I look back at what I have written and thank Holy Spirit for communicating with me!

So, with the help of *June* (a wonderful woman from our home church), I have made giving away journals a part of our ministry. The journals she so generously provides have beautiful covers and often include a Bible verse. All "our girls" have journals to record their prayers and any other writings or artwork they want to include. Their moms have journals. Women I encounter on and off the reservation have beautiful journals. When I give away a journal I often share my 'secret' of hearing God as I spend quiet time with Him. I encourage them to share their hearts with our Daddy God and then listen for His words to them.

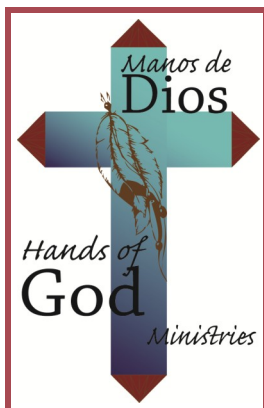
What a gift! Communicating with the God that created all of creation! He is lovely. He is Holy. He is God. And He loves us! Why not write "He says" in your journal and listen to what He is saying to you?



## Contact us:

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Tax-deductible contributions can be sent to:  
 Manos de Dios, NFP  
 2914 N Indian Ruins Road, Tucson AZ 85715  
 or be made on our website: [ManosdeDios.org](http://ManosdeDios.org)



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*Riscilla, Drelyn and Jacy enjoyed an afternoon at the indoor climbing wall. Riscilla and Jacy's host moms provide wonderful activities for exercise, cultural exposure, and education. We are trusting God to provide host families for Drelyn, Thearsa, Naomi and Nicole next school year!*

**"May Your ways be known throughout the earth, Your saving power among people everywhere.**

**May the nations praise you, O God.**

**Yes, may all the nations praise You.**

**Let the whole world sing for joy, because You govern the nations with justice and guide the people of the whole world."**

**Psalm 67:2-4**