



Manos de Dios, Hands of God Ministries

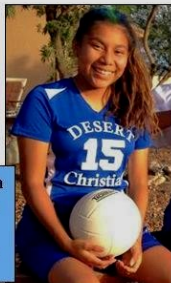
June/July 2016

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



Learning the lesson...again... wait on God!

Thearsa
age 14
8th
grade

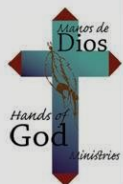


Drelyn
age 15
11th
grade



Cross-cultural ministry opportunity!

Provide a Christian home for an Apache teenage girl by hosting her while she attends Desert Christian School for the 2016/2017 school year.



**Contact Dennis & Lucy of
Manos de Dios "Hands of God"
Ministries for more information and
to receive a Host Family Application.**

**Call/text 520-404-5045 or
email Lucy@ManosdeDios.org.
Thank you!**

**(above) Flyer sharing need for
host families for Thearsa &
Drelyn to enable them to
continue their education at
Desert Christian School!**

It is two weeks before Desert Christian School begins for the 2016/2017 year. Two (of 'our' four) young ladies are registered for school, have scholarships coming in to cover their tuitions, **but don't have a home** to live in while they continue to receive this high-quality Christian education! Much prayer has been lifted up for these special teens. "Please, Lord, touch the hearts and minds of the families You intend to host Drelyn and to host Thearsa this school year!"

Moms ask, "Do you have a host family for my daughter yet? School is beginning this week on the Reservation. Are you sure I shouldn't just enroll her here?" "No!" we reply. "God will provide. He is faithful. Trust Him. Pray! Encourage your daughter to pray! We are praying and trusting in God's perfect plan!"

"He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things?"
Romans 8:32 (NKJV)

"Yes, Lord, you freely give us all things! You have provided two wonderful couples (empty nesters!) to host Riscilla and to host Naomi! Thank you so much! Please bless them as they open their homes to these

students!"

"For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind." 2 Timothy 1:7 (NKJV)

"Lord, please help us not to give in to fear. We will continue to believe that Your timing is perfect...even if it is not ours! We will obey you and worship You while we wait!"

May God be glorified in our lives and in the lives of these girls as we learn this lesson of waiting on Him! (Thank you for your prayers!)....Lucy & Dennis

"Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us, to Him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen."

Inside this issue:

Living Hope Center encourages marriages	2
Volunteers at Living Hope gain more LIFE!	3
Learning to crucify our FLESH!	4
Riscilla visits NAU campus	5
Serving family, writing, studying and request for prayers	6

Living Hope Center encourages marriages!by Lucy

“Nevertheless let each one of you in particular so love his own wife as himself, and let the wife see that she respects her husband.”

Ephesians 5:33

Dennis and I attended a Love & Respect Conference in 2011. It was the most powerful and helpful counsel we have received for our marriage! We were so grateful for this teaching by Dr. Emerson Eggerich* and immediately purchased the Conference DVD set, knowing that others would benefit from these lessons. We showed the DVD Conference to our friends at AICM (the mission school we served at as dorm parents). We prayed earnestly for opportunities to share this teaching tool with folks on the White Mountain Apache Reservation. No doors opened at churches, with small groups or through local pastors. We prayed and waited.

Then, about a year ago I mentioned to my co-worker, Naomi, that we have this great marriage enrichment DVD set. She told me that she and her husband would really like to go through it! I lent it to her and they appreciated it. We talked about offering this teaching as part of our classes at the Living Hope Center in Whiteriver. Yes, we had *a few* married couples (verses most of our clients who are ‘living together’) coming for classes. They would certainly benefit from some encouragement for their marriage in addition to the parenting classes they were attending.

I asked a newly married couple when they came in for a parenting class, “Would you like to view the DVD on disciplining your children OR a lesson on enriching your marriage?” Knowing they weren’t believers (yet) I added that it is based on principles in the Bible, but stated that it was very helpful as “God created marriage!” The husband immediately spoke up and said, “We’ll do the marriage lesson!” Yeah!



Lynette and Kenneth Patten with their children Kennah and Justin

God is at work in their marriage and the marriages of six other couples (including the Patten’s shown left) who are working their way through the 6 DVD set of Love and Respect lessons. The teaching is simple, but not easy to implement! Husbands are to *love* their wives in a way that the wives *feel* loved....even when they are behaving in an unlovable manner! Wives are to *respect/show honor* to their husbands even when they are not acting respectable (with the exception of abuse, of course)! In the matriarchal society of the White Mountain Apaches the idea of respecting husbands being a command from God is a foreign concept! One woman even spoke up and said that this is just a

suggestion from God as NO ONE is doing it! What a commentary on our world and the Reservation!

Thank you for your support of Manos de Dios, Hands of God Ministries, which in turn supports the work at Living Hope Center in Whiteriver by enabling Lucy to volunteer two days a week as a Client Advocate, Parenting Instructor and Life Recovery Mentor (including facilitating Love & Respect lessons)! Your support and prayers are helping change lives with the TRUTH of God’s Word. Husbands and wives are learning to love and respect each other. This will enable them to be better parents and also model a godly marriage for their children. It will combat the lie of the enemy that says “marriage is not worth it...just live together!” Please pray for these couples as they learn to implement love and respect into their marriages. “We’re asking You, God to strengthen these husbands and wives to show love and respect even when it is not easy and that You would bless their marriages! In Jesus’ name, we pray.” Thank you!

**For more information go to LoveandRespect.com*



Lucy And Dennis have been married for 30 years! Lucy draws from her marriage experience to encourage couples at Living Hope.

Living Hope Center provides “Life” such as volunteer opportunities, abstinence classes for teens, and Bible Studiesby Lucy



Riscilla and Drelyn volunteering in the Boutique sorting room at the Whiteriver Living Hope Center.



Thearsa organizes displays in our Boutique at Living Hope Center in Whiteriver.

*"I am the door. If anyone enters by Me, he will be saved, and will go in and out and find pasture. The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have **life**, and that they may have it more **abundantly**. I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd gives His life for the sheep."* –Jesus John 10:9-11 (emphasis added)

Life...abundant life. Loving God. Serving. Learning God's principles. Studying God's Word.

This summer Living Hope is providing each of these 'life' components for our volunteers, including the teens who are on summer break. Riscilla, Drelyn, and Thearsa have come to volunteer in the center's Boutique and chalked up community service hours needed for their school. While they are at the center, they have been viewing the *abstinence-only sex education lessons* we have on DVD. This is a wonderful series of teachings by Pam Stenzel. (For more information go to www.pamstenzel.com) All the girls have declared, "All teens on the Rez need to hear this!" Amen! Yes, this is the message all teens (and many adults) need to hear: God created sex and children to be within the confines of marriage! Praise God, these young ladies have made a commitment to

stay pure until marriage. They are aware the enemy wants to only kill, steal and destroy the plan and potential God has for their lives (and are pro-actively taking a stand against his strategies!)

Our adult volunteers at Living Hope also take advantage of the classes we offer. Many have begun requesting, "Let's do a Bible Study today." We have a wonderful curriculum that goes through the Bible. Also we use the *Discovering God* technique of reading a passage together, asking questions about the passage, applying the message to our lives and praying for each other. These women are learning to *allow the Holy Spirit to lead and teach them*. All are growing in faith and maturity as they gain work skills and Biblical life principles. Praise God for LIFE!



Baby Aubree and her new guardian visited our center

I am sure kids are saying this off the reservations, but on the White Mountain Apache Reservation this saying is used frequently and with emotion. We heard once more, “I have to be true to myself; this is who I am,” and it concerned an action that is unacceptable to Jesus. A teaching moment had arrived.

When non-believers say this, I find myself understanding the way they feel. It is not accurate, but it is something they think they are doing that is right and that they have a ‘right’ to feel this way. On the other hand, Christ-followers do not have the luxury of declaring this and using it as an excuse for behavior that does not conform to Jesus’ principles.

The world tells us things like, “The truer you are to yourself, the greater your gifts will manifest themselves.” 12 Keys to Success for Misfits, Weirdos & Introverts: A Practical and Spiritual Guide to Understanding Your Place in the World by Tiffany L. Jackson.

Also the world tells us, “Being true to yourself starts with knowing who you are and accepting yourself; knowing your strengths; passions, limitations and purpose in life and then living that way all the time; you come to know yourself only by living life; finding what works for you; what defines you and makes you whole, it is a personal choice for truth; means you don’t worry about pleasing other people, no one can tell you how to be true to yourself except you; it is this simple — either you live in integrity or you live out of integrity.” Blog *Here’s How 2 B U* by Michael Feeley, Certified Life and Career Coach. (<http://michaelfeeleylifecoach.com/>)

Many people (especially kids) that follow those principles wind up confused, in trouble, and feel they are being picked on, to name a few drawbacks. When you are following those principles you are living in the FLESH. And I don’t know about you, but my living in the flesh may have gotten me a little bit of satisfaction and fun for a short time. However in the long run, it has brought nothing to me but pain, suffering, regret, and bad memories that I can’t erase.

As a Christ-follower there is no choice. Christ-followers are to crucify the flesh (or sin nature) and die to self. The “dying to self” in the New Testament is the next step after accepting Christ. It means that we take up our cross and follow Christ. It is part of being born again; the old self dies and the new self comes to life. (see John 3:3–7).

Dying to self is a two-part commitment and part of our sanctification. Dying to self is both a one-time event and a lifelong process in the born-again believer. When self interferes with the principles of Jesus, only pain and hardship will follow immediately or eventually. So when a young person (or anyone) makes the comment about having to be true to yourself, incorporate it into a teaching moment and explain to them about *walking in the Spirit* instead of the flesh!

You can read scripture about our FLESH in [Matthew 26:41](#), [John 6:63](#), [Romans 8:5](#), [Galatians 5:16](#), [Galatians 5:1-21](#) and [Romans 8:13](#). (A longer version of this article is available upon request. Contact me at Dennis@ManosdeDios.org.)

Even though this is a difficult list to read, it is a good starting point to see if we are allowing the flesh to dominate any part of our life.

“When you follow the desires of your sinful nature, the results are very clear: sexual immorality, impurity, lustful pleasures, idolatry, sorcery, hostility, quarreling, jealousy, outbursts of anger, selfish ambition, dissension, division, envy, drunkenness, wild parties, and other sins like these. Let me tell you again, as I have before, that anyone living that sort of life will not inherit the Kingdom of God.” Galatians 5:19-21 (NLT)

“A life dominated by the flesh is a hard life. It is filled with excess, imbalance, laziness, self-abuse, hatred, strife, bitterness, irresponsibility and neglect. The flesh cries out to be in charge, screaming to have its own way, demanding to be the boss. Unless you take your flesh to the Cross and mortify it by the power of God, it will keep screaming until you finally surrender to it and allow it to produce its ruinous effects in your life.” Taken from [Sparking Gems from the Greek](#) by Rick Renner, pages 493-494.

Riscilla begins to look at colleges

Riscilla is entering her senior year at Desert Christian High School. She wants to go to college and is interested in pursuing a career in the medical field. She likes the mountains and doesn't want to go to school where it is "as hot as Tucson or Phoenix". "OK. Let's look elsewhere," we responded. Dennis had a doctor's appointment in Flagstaff so we combined it with a tour of the NAU (Northern Arizona University) campus. The three of us were very impressed with the campus, class offerings, and student housing. Riscilla learned of the criteria for academic scholarships and committed to work hard her senior year.

As an added bonus, Dennis' doctor invited Riscilla to come observe at his orthopedic office if she attends NAU. Wow! What a great offer!

Riscilla is also interested in checking out some Christian Colleges, but she doesn't want to go "too far from home."

She is praying and asking God for His plan for her life. (Yeah!) We trust He will open the door He has for her.

"For I know the plans I have for you," says the LORD. "They are plans for good and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope. In those days when you pray, I will listen. If you look for me wholeheartedly, you will find me." Jeremiah 29:11-13 (NLT)



Riscilla was very impressed with the student activity offerings for students at NAU including this huge aquatic center.



NAU freshman dorm room

Pros for choosing NAU (so far)

- Weather/location
- Will know students from Desert Christian High School and/or Whiteriver
- Great health profession tracks with nursing and pre-med options
- Active community and campus
- Christian clubs
- Native American Student Services Center

Dennis' update!

I have been busy with some minor health issues this summer and I have been blessed to be able to help my father-in-law as he had fractured two ribs. Between the two of us, we spend a lot of time in different doctors' offices. To me it was (and is) a great time to be with family and support each other. We do not know what tomorrow will bring. I encourage all of you to appreciate and take advantage of the time you get to spend with family because life can change in an instant!

PERSONALLY, as I have mentioned, I have been restricted by health issues from doing a lot of volunteer work this summer at the different Living Hope Centers and on the Reservation, but that has not stopped me from serving.

God has put it on my heart to study His Word and share what I have learned. As you already know, I have been studying what scripture tells us about end times and what to expect. The more I study and read His Word, the more I am encouraged to write about false teachers, the coming of a "one world church" and the fact that many, even the elect (Matthew 24:24) will fall away because of the teachings of false pastors/teachers. So far, there have only been four negative comments from my readers and the comments spoke about their feelings and no scripture was provided to back up their comments.

If you will, I ask that you **pray** for me. Pray that I keep focused on His truth and not on my feelings or perceptions. Pray that as I study His Word, the Holy Spirit will help me discern what I should write and to pen it in a loving manner but one that is true. And pray that when I receive negative comments, I respond in a Christ-like manner and if I need to correct my finding I do so immediately and humbly. Your comments are always welcome and appreciated!

Dennis

CONTACT US!

520.404.5045 (Lucy: voice or text)

520.245.2039 (Dennis: voice)

928.251-2324 (Heart House in Show Low)

GetInvolved@ManosdeDios.org

Tax-deductible contributions may be sent to:

Manos de Dios, NFP

2914 N Indian Ruins Road, Tucson AZ 85715 OR

made on our website: ManosdeDios.org



Dad (89 yrs old) spends some time with us at the Heart House this summer! Happy daughter, Lucy!

What Lucy's reading/studying: Studying the Book of Hebrews (which ties in perfectly with our waiting in faith for host families!) I am using a study program written by Jen Wilkin of Flower Mound, Texas. She writes Bible Studies for women and shares a weekly podcast for the current study. I enjoy being able to go at my own pace and to dig deep. For more information go to: <http://jenwilkin.podbean.com/>

Reading The Connected Child by Karyn B. Purvis, Ph.D. This book was recommended by Darla who hosted Drelyn last year. It addresses issues families face who parent children from other cultures, from troubled backgrounds, and/or with special behavior or emotional needs. We thought it might be a good resource for our host families, and it is! It mostly addresses needs of younger children, but the principles are applicable.