

Costa Rican Reflections



From the time we became missionaries in 2002, we always believed that our mission was two-fold: to inspire the people of the world to worship God, and to work ourselves out of a job! We believe both goals are biblical, based in part on Psalm 150:6, "Let everything that has breath praise the Lord. ..." and 2 Timothy 2:2, "And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable men who will also be qualified to teach others," and supported by text throughout the Bible. That's what motivated our ministry in Honduras, where we trained Honduran men & women to lead a church, evangelize and disciple others, and reach out to their community. That is what still motivates our ministry with LATN/ProMETA today.

Did you know:

Costa Rica claims 10% of the world's butterfly species, over 3,000 of which have been recorded in one national park alone?

The professors of our online seminary, ProMETA, design their courses to challenge the men & women who take them to live in a way that honors God & draws others to Him. Just as Paul charged Timothy, "Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a workman who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth" (2 Tim. 2:15), so our professors & mentors encourage our students to hold themselves accountable to one another and to God as men and women of integrity, knowledge, and compassion in a world that desperately needs them!

But, as we all know, "...Faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead" (James 2:17). And that is why we also encourage our students to put their education to work for the glory of God and the good of His people. This also enables



us to fulfill our 2nd goal, that of working ourselves out of a job. If our students, who are scattered across the entire Spanish speaking world, are putting their faith into action, that diminishes and in some cases completely eliminates the need for foreign missionaries to go to those countries to do the same work. Ministry is so much more effective when done by a native of the country, language, and culture!

The recent tragic events in Haiti provided a perfect stage for this principle to play out. Carline is from Haiti, and she's one of ProMETA's students. This trimester, she is enrolled in one of our newest courses, *Motivating the People of God to Serve*. Carline works as a missionary to Haitian women & children who live in the Dominican Republic. When January's earthquake devastated her homeland,

Carline decided to put her faith & her education into action. Encouraged by ProMETA professor, Dr. Tim McIntosh, and her classmates, who spoke to her through the online classroom forum, Carline

organized an effort to take emergency medical supplies, clean water, water purifiers, food, and personal hygiene kits back across the Haiti/DR border to the traumatized survivors of the earthquake. Because she is Haitian and was there, Carline was capable of reaching the neediest people much more quickly than any missionary or international aid worker. This is faith accompanied by action, and this is what we desire to see in every one of our students! Join us in praising God for this young woman's faithfulness and this testimony to the efficacy of our ministry!



Carline in Haiti

Prayer & Praise

- Praise God for effective ministry!
- Please pray for our family's health as we've all suffered various respiratory illnesses recently.
- Pray for Marcette's mom's safe travel & blessed visit, Feb. 18—25.



It is because of your faithful prayer & financial support that Spanish-speaking leaders like Carline are being trained to be ministers of God's love, grace, and truth to their own people. Can you even begin to imagine the thousands of people around the world that are being affected by their ministries? We may never see their faces in this life, but just think what a joyful day it will be when we meet them in heaven! *Thank you* for enabling us to equip *God's greatest blessings on you, Henry, Marcette, Meghan, Lindsay & Jordan* these faithful workers!

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