



During the spring of 1994, I had an experience that would change my life forever. I spent 10 days in Honduras on a short-term mission trip through Biola University. Taken out of my comfort zone of California, my eyes were opened to see God in whole new ways. It is largely because of that early experience that I am in missions today.

When we first arrived in Guatemala, we began to serve alongside our teammates in sending out Guatemalans on short-term mission trips. It was a joy for us to learn from Patty de Pivaral, a woman who was a pioneer in the missions movement in Guatemala. She gave us many opportunities to walk alongside and train others as they prepared to be sent out. People came back from a month with the Mies project changed, and as a result of being changed many of them continued to serve God all over the world!



This week the Mies project was put to rest. After over two decades of service, Patty stepped down as the Mies coordinator. She is a mom of young children and has decided that her time running the program has come to an end. Her prayer is that someone else will take over this ministry that has impacted the lives of so many.

The Guatemala OC team had a special commemoration time for Patty on Thursday morning, to honor her and thank her for all her years of faithful service. Kyle and I called in from our office here in Colorado to express our gratitude for all that she has invested in people's lives over the years, including our own. The missions movement in Guatemala will miss the participation of Patty de Pivaral.

Short-term missions has had an impressive impact on the Guatemalan church, a similar kind of impact that it had on my life all those years ago. Please pray for the Guatemalan church as it continues its journey in missions and in impacting the world. Pray for those whose lives were touched through the Mies project, that they would serve faithfully in God's Kingdom.

As Short-Term Coordinator for OC International, my vision is that "many would be mobilized to work in the expansion of God's Kingdom." It happened in my own life, it happened through the Mies project, and I pray that it happens through the sending out of many more to OC's fields.

Thank you for your support of short-term ministries,

*Nell*