

## Keep On!

Update on Jose Luis and his family:

July 2020



It was so encouraging to see God's faithfulness to José Luis' family!

Martyn , a prominent Welsh minister of the twentieth century was at the back of his church talking with congregants at the end of a Sunday service. One of his proteges was curious, and wondered what great wisdom his pastor was sharing with church members as they left for home. He decided to go and stand beside Lloyd-Jones in order to listen in. What he heard were various brief topics of conversation, but each one ended with the pastor sharing two short words as they parted ways. "Keep on!" The young man left that day a bit disappointed. That was the best this great preacher could do? But the more those two words ran through his head, he began to realize how much people really need encouragement. Life can be tough and sometimes we simply need to be reminded that God is for us so keep on!

In May I wrote about Jose Luis, his wife Rocio and their four children. Jose Luis was recovering from Covid at the time, and SpLloyd-Jonesectrum was able to bring them some much needed help in regards to food. This time when Julian and I stopped by for a visit we were glad to see that Jose Luis was one hundred percent recuperated! In fact he wasn't at home because he was back to work at the lumber yard!

Instead, we were greeted by Rocio and three of their kids, who with big smiles handed over homemade thank you letters to Julian and I. Then Rocio began to share with us how much God has been doing in their lives and how He has used both their church and Spectrum.

It started back in May 2019 when three of their kids attended our Spectrum kids camp. Rocio went along as a girl's counselor for their church. She and Jose Luis had been believers for a little less than a year at that time but many of their old habits and attitudes were still hanging on, making their marriage pretty miserable. In fact, leading up to camp they were thinking about giving up. But then God did something in Rocio's heart during one of the messages she heard at camp. She was encouraged, her faith was bolstered, and she went home and shared it all with Jose Luis. They were both convinced that God wanted them to 'keep on'! Since then, through the help of their church, they have



I was so blessed to receive a tour of their little hardware store and be able to pray for God's blessing on their new business!



Rocio and her son sharing their story with me. The door on the left is where there new store is.

dealt with many issues and grown in so many ways in their marriage. Rescuing marriages is obviously not why we do kids camp, but God had plans to use it for just that!

Then came Jose Luis' bout with Covid-19. Before the pandemic, Jose Luis and Rocio were aspiring to open a small hardware store out of their home. They had applied for a small business loan and Jose Luis' boss at the lumber store agreed to use his contacts to help them get started. But when Jose Luis got sick, they thought their dreams for their store would have to wait. The lost salary from missing three weeks of work was too much

for them to overcome in order to make the initial investment in their store. But because of the help Spectrum gave them and the support some of you sent in response to May's newsletter, they were able to stay afloat and open their tiny hardware store as planned! It was the boost they needed in order to 'keep on'!

Rocio was overwhelmed with emotion as she told us how special it was that we brought them food during their time of need. In fact, one time Julian brought them pizza and that personal touch meant the world to them! She wiped tears from her eyes as she and her three kids showed me the inside of their mini hardware store. I had a chance to pray for their family and for God's blessing on their fledgling business. What a cool thing for their kids to see their parent's reliance on God and to experience His faithfulness so clearly!

On behalf of all of us at Spectrum, I want to thank you for your 'keeping on' in your prayers and faithful support for the work God is doing here in Tijuana! It directly impacts the people we work with and allows us to help them keep on and not give up. And as we share with them the message of God's faithful love and salvation, we can keep on seeing lives transformed and the hope of Jesus Christ bring people to a saving knowledge of Him!

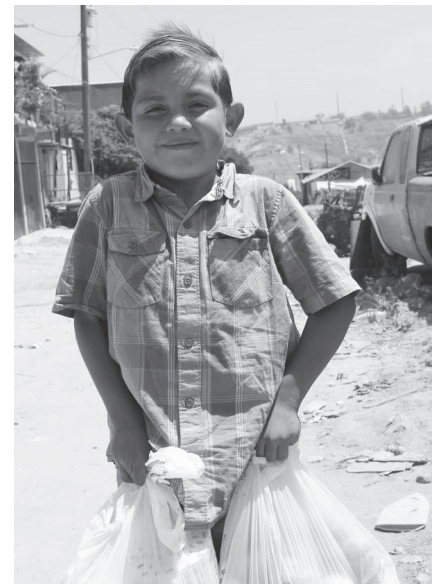
From all of us at Spectrum,

Matt Kooi  
Director of Spectrum Ministries

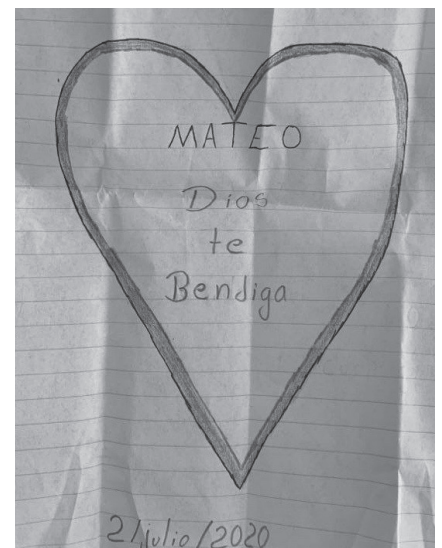
*"I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith." - 2 Timothy 4:7*



Bags of fruit provide a healthy snack for all the kids we work with!



Our door to door food distributions continue on Thursdays and Saturdays. Our families are very thankful for the much needed bags of groceries!



One of the thank you letters the kids made for us.