



NOVEMBER 2019

# QUÉ PASA

What's Happening

A Publication of International Children's Care  
P.O. Box 820610 Vancouver, WA 98682-0013

(360) 573-0429 • (800) 422-7729  
VISIT OUR WEBSITE [ForHisKids.org](http://ForHisKids.org)

## Thankful—And Happy To Belong!

*Thank you for the wonderful blessing you are to "His Kids!"*

**A**s we celebrate this year's Thanksgiving holiday here in the U.S., we'll be reminded of the bountiful blessings God has given to us throughout another year—good health (or at least access to quality health care), loving family relationships, opportunities to grow, develop and succeed.

Even simple things like food, clothing, and shelter are often taken for granted. Thanksgiving offers us a season to reflect and be truly grateful for the way God has touched and blessed our lives.

For orphan children like Raji, Marissa, and Henri the blessings that you help to supply to them are so very important and for which they are truly grateful all year long!

**Raji has been through a lot in his young life. In order to provide for his family, Raji's father went to a distant state in India for a welding job. He had to leave behind his wife, Raji and his younger brother. But the job was a good one and it offered good wages.**

Raji's father was only able to visit home once or twice a year and this wasn't enough to keep the home fires of love burning



This is Raji. He was rejected by his mother. His father was unable to care for him. He's now living at DEWS Sweet Home Children's Village in India.

brightly. Raji's mother developed a relationship with another man. When Raji's father returned home the next time, his wife refused to live with him. She no longer wanted him nor Raji or his brother.

The breakup of this home was devastating. The mother didn't want Raji, and the father was more like a stranger than a father. He couldn't keep his job and keep the boys. As is often the case, the broken life of a child is the sad result of a broken marriage. Raji's father begged us to accept the boys into our care. And knowing of the compassionate heart that you and other ICC

family members have for children like Raji, who need the nurturing care of a loving Christian family, our administrator welcomed Raji and his little brother into the ICC family.

**Marissa and her three siblings became a part of the ICC family in Guatemala as a result of a court order. They had been found wandering alone through the streets.**

Efforts were made to locate family members. When the authorities found out the mother was not working in a reputable occupation and was not providing any care for Marissa and her siblings



This is Marissa. She and her siblings were found wandering the streets of their home town by themselves. They are now living at the Los Pinos Children's Village in Guatemala.

# Test Your Knowledge

Can you answer these questions about ICC?

**1. What year was ICC incorporated?**

a. 1976   b. 1978   c. 1981

**2. How many children have been helped by ICC donors in the years ICC has existed?**

a. 4,112   b. 5,217   c. 3,921

**3. What is the average cost of one meal for one child in the ICC program?**

a. \$1.13   b. \$0.71   c. \$2.11

**4. What is the percentage of the children's financial budget needs for the whole year comes in during the month of December?**

a. 17%   b. 33%   c. 23%

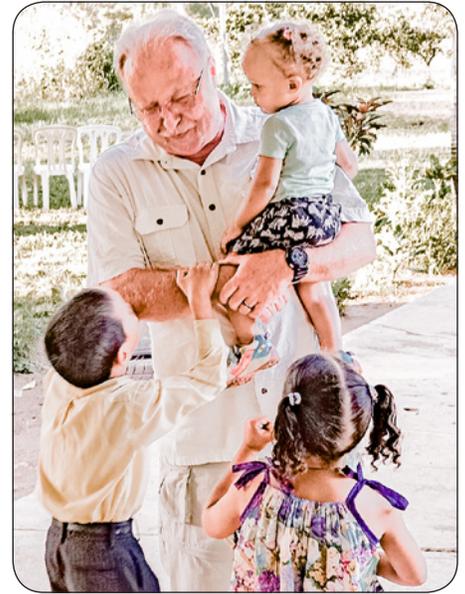


Answers to the Quiz: Question 1 = B; Questions 2 = A; Question 3 = B; Question 4 = C

# Questions Of Importance

I hope you enjoyed learning more about the children of ICC by taking a few moments and going through the “ICC Informational Quiz.” It’s always fun and rewarding to learn more about the lives of the children and what is all involved in their various programs.

I hope that one of the questions of importance that stood out to you on the previous page was the fact that December is such an important month for the children as far as yearly funding is concerned. There is no other month that means more to the children than December does, this month actually decides if we even have children’s villages in the coming year. Yes, it is that important to the children. When you think about 23% of the total year’s donations coming in just the month December, it is vitally important! Isn’t it ironic that we always celebrate the birth of Jesus at this time of year, and now it is also the same time of year that decides how His kids lives will be saved and changed as well? Just think about that.



I am asking you to prayerfully consider your year-end giving plan this next month to include a very special gift for His kids. This has been a difficult year financially for all of the projects. We are doing everything we can to try to shore up the financial pillars of each project. This year we have given lots of effort and time into developing industries at the children’s villages in order to help them financially contribute by offsetting some of their ever-increasing budgets. This is starting to help, but we just started these efforts, and we are far from making the difference we hope to make in the future. These efforts take money themselves to initiate, and as always, we work very hard to be good stewards of what comes in for the children. This is why you see an occasional special request letter asking to help support a specific industry in a children’s village. We always want to make sure that we spend every dollar wisely for its intended purpose.

I also want to thank each one of you for your continued, faithful support on behalf of the children. Your love and support are what keeps the doors open, food on the table, and most importantly, hope for today and a heavenly home for the futures of His kids.

God bless you for everything that you continue to do for the children. I am so excited for the day when the they can walk up to you in our heavenly home and thank you personally for what you have done for them each day while we are on this earth. That will be such a special moment for me, and an amazing and rewarding moment for you!

*In Service for His kids,*

Doug Congleton

# Thankful—And Happy To Belong! *continued*

they were taken into care by the government.

These children were initially sent to one children's home and then another before finally becoming a part of our ICC family.

Joel Carpio, our Los Pinos director, knew of the emotional and psychological trauma the children had experienced from being moved around. Rather than letting the children be dropped off yet again at another facility, he arranged to pick them up himself and drive them to the Los Pinos Children's Village.

They had a pleasant trip with him and were excited and full of joy as soon as they arrived. That day was the Father's Day celebration and they became very involved in the program.

That day Marissa and her siblings began to experience first-hand what it means to be a part of a loving family—with a mom and dad. Imagine coming to the Los Pinos campus when the families were celebrating fathers. Marissa's own father was not a part of her life. Yet, thanks to ICC family members like you, she can now experience the love of an earthly father. And more importantly, within the ICC family, she will learn of her heavenly father and the home He is preparing for her.

**Henri's mother died as a result of being caught up in the war between rebels and government forces in the DR Congo. His father is blind and had no way to protect Henri or provide for him.**



This is Henri. His mother was killed in fighting between rebel and government forces. His blind father cannot provide for him. He is now living at the Patmos Children's Village in the D.R. Congo.

Henri's story is similar to other children who have come to us from this country filled with violence and natural disasters. War tears children from their mother's arms. And the children are left with little hope and nothing to live for unless help comes from outside. And again, thanks to your support, Henri has been given a new life within the ICC family at Patmos Children's Village. And the pieces of his life are being slowly put back together.

Through the support of ICC family members like you, Raji, Marissa and Henri have found a place of safety and a place to belong. They are thankful for the blessings you help to provide for them each day.

## World Orphan Day Spotlights the Plight of Orphans

November 11 is World Orphan Day. On this day, many people around the world will be paying special attention to the needs of orphans. We are so very grateful that you care about orphans, not just on November 11, but every day of the year! Your loving and generous support makes it possible for our dedicated family of care givers to provide all that Raji, Marissa and Henri and others like them need.

These children don't really care about a day of the year that focuses on their needs. What they need is daily care. That is only possible as you continue to partner with us to love them and provide for them.

**This Thanksgiving season, as we celebrate the blessings God has given, please consider giving a special thank you gift to help support children like Raji, Marissa and Henri who are finding out what it means to be a part of a loving family. Thank you!**

May God bless you with a Happy Thanksgiving!

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