

Mission UpReach Newsletter

Raising up a generation of leaders begins with children

By Phil Waldron

You want to know something that Vladimir Lenin and Adolf Hitler had in common? Well for starters, they both wanted to transform the societies and countries that they lived in. And secondly, they both recognized that the youth organization that had begun in England known as the Boy Scouts was both a threat to their dreams of transformation while at the same time a potential tool to be used to transform their countries. They both outlawed the organization in their respective countries in an effort to destroy the positive influence that the youth movement was having on their culture.

History shows that Lenin returned to the Soviet Union after visiting the United Kingdom and began a decades long program for both boys and girls that he called "The Pioneers." The Pioneer program was based on the Boy Scout program but with a twist. Lenin took the basic Boy Scout program and used it to indoctrinate the youth of Russia and other soviet nations in his brand of communism. Eventually upwards of 260 million Soviet children went through the Pioneers program. Imagine what 260 million grownups who had been schooled in the ideology of Lenin's communism did during their lifetimes under the hammer and sickle.

Movements for youngsters, including the Boy Scouts, were part of German culture and the Hitler Youth was created in the 1920's. By 1933 its membership stood at 100,000. After Hitler came to power; all other youth movements were abolished and as a result the Hitler Youth grew quickly. In 1936, the figure stood at 4 million members and it became all but compulsory to join the Hitler Youth.

Here is a quote from Adolf Hitler as to the purpose behind the Hitler Youth Movement, "The weak must be chiseled away. I want young men and women who can suffer pain. A young German must be swift as greyhound, as tough as leather, and as hard as Krupp's steel."

Both of these Leaders wreaked destruction and havoc on millions of lives through their human and God-less ambition to change the world. The point of the comparison is that in spite of being Godless individuals they recognized a fundamental truth that we as Christians seem to overlook: "If we want to bring the Kingdom of Heaven here and now in our realm of influence just as it is in Heaven, we have to begin by raising up a generation of leaders, starting with children as young as eight or nine years old, that have been transformed by a personal and real relationship with Jesus as Lord of their life."

Think about how Christianity conquered the Roman Empire and the idolatrous culture that permeated the Empire. Pliny wrote to the Roman Emperor Trajan in the early second century that because of this "superstition", meaning Christianity, "the Temples are deserted". To Pliny the emptiness of the temples represented chaos and disorder and the breakdown of society. Or in other words, by 117 A.D. Christianity was already completely transforming Roman society. In October of 2004 Barna released research indicating, "that nearly half of all Americans who accept Jesus Christ as their savior do so before reaching the age of 13 (43%), and that two out of three born again Christians (64%) made that commitment to Christ before their 18th birthday."

Here at Mission UpReach, after taking into consideration the negative



yet powerful influence that Hitler and Lenin had in radically transforming their countries combined with the positive influence that Barna's research highlights, we are compelled to focus on teaching Bible values and principles to children with the vision of raising up an entirely new generation of community leaders. Our vision is a "John1010 Generation" that knows the Lord and is blessed by Him as they seek justice, mercy and grace for them and their nation.



Helping children change a nation

By Dakota Nowell

Fostering a culture for A Capella music from the ground up has proved to be a daunting task. Without disrespecting the rich culture of traditions and Honduran customs, we aim to equip the future generation with a deep understanding of music, specifically singing. We started a children's choir two years ago in hopes that those kids would one day be the future leaders of the church. This year, we added a select choir with

kids from the local congregation as well as select students from last year's choir. This select choir, "Los CatraChicos", rehearses for two hours every Sunday before worship service. Some of these kids who haven't grown up in the church now know most of the songs and are actively participating in their bible classes.

In the last concert of the year, titled "Honduras for Peace", the select children's choir had the opportunity of performing alongside our 5-piece A Capella ensemble, "Voces de Belen". The two choirs

performed a total of 11 songs all based on the theme of peace. In a country plagued by gang violence, this concert was the perfect catalyst to give children the voice they are so often denied. The collaboration between these two choirs is a great example of our goal with the children's choir. We look to create not only a love and appreciation for singing, but also a solid understanding of music theory and techniques. In doing so, we hope to build up the next generation of the church with capable and talented song leaders and worshippers.



Q&A: Irma Santos, DESEO Supervisor

By Caleb Gossett

We sat down with the supervisor of our DESEO program to get her perspective on the impact they are having on the community.

Q: What is the impact of the DESEO program on the children in the schools you visit?

A: We see the impact we are having by the attitudes and reactions of the kids when we enter the schools, and it is amazing to see. In the schools we visit, we have achieved a 95% attendance rate, and we hear from the teachers that the day we visit is the school's best attendance. We see a motivation in the kids and an interest in being a part of our classes, and we do our best to be creative and dynamic. The most satisfying thing is getting to see the change in the kids with whom we work.

Q: What does your team do when they are not in the schools?

A:

1. Develop class plans.
2. Do run-throughs of lessons that may be taboo for the children or parents.
3. Receive training directed at childhood education.
4. Get ready for special events that are programmed throughout the year.
5. Develop classes for parents.
6. Practice devotionals for future classes.
7. Organize personal work space.
8. Do volunteer work.
9. Develop didactic material for classes and tutoring.

Q: What impact does the DESEO program have on the community?

A: It certainly has a huge impact in the community, because at a regional level, there is no program like DESEO. The fact that we go to each school once a week for the entire school year helps the kids develop a sense of trust and interest in the program. This year we began working with parents in the community of Corquín, and we have been able to see the benefit it is for them. These parents also express their gratitude for what we do for their children.

Q: How is your team able to perform at such a high level each and every day of the work week?

A:

1. Being thankful to God for the opportunity to work.
2. Receiving motivational classes throughout the year.
3. Feeling empowered by our work.
4. Loving what we do and most importantly loving the kids that we work with.
5. Recognizing and feeling satisfied that we are contributing in a big way



to the education of our country.

6. Being convinced that if you love what you do, it isn't just a job.
7. Taking care of ourselves physically and mentally.

Q: Where do you see the DESEO program in the next 5 years?

A:

1. God willing, DESEO will be in more schools at a national level.
2. The DESEO team will have expanded.
3. We will have helped create a community with well-established values: spiritual, moral, and civic.





A note from Donna



As we focus this month on the fact that building a different future starts with children, I am reminded that we are truly privileged here in Honduras to be able to go into public schools and teach the Bible. Those days are long gone in the US, but we are committed to continuing to teach the

Bible here as long as we are allowed, knowing that it could also come to an end in Honduras.

As we dream and plan how to impact the children at deeper levels, we have concluded that it is time for us at Mission UpReach to begin a child sponsorship program. We are convinced that we are having a long-term impact with our DESEO program, including our afternoon tutoring, basketball and choir. The only way to expand is to get more people involved in supporting the children. Providing uniforms, shoes,

backpacks, and school supplies in addition to what we already provide will make the difference for some children who would otherwise have to drop out of school due to their family's inability to purchase the necessary tools for school.

We also believe that a personal relationship with an adult or a family in the US will provide emotional and spiritual encouragement for the children who are sponsored. We are excited about this plan and will be rolling it out later this month. Soon you will be able to visit the website (www.deseoproject.org) and learn more about the program as well as sponsor the child of your choice. Please pray for us as we seek 2500+ sponsors!



2018 Brigades/Visiting Teams

TBD	Tusculum C of C	Medical
March 10-17.....	Southside C of C	Medical
March 10-17.....	Pine Tree C of C youth.....	VBS/Construction
April 7-14	Surgical Brigade	Surgery
June 9-16.....	Lexington C of C.....	Medical
June 16-23	North Atlanta C of C	Pastoral Counseling/ Marriage Mentoring
June 23-30	Pine Tree C of C	Medical/VBS/Construction
June 30 - July 7.....	Snellville C of C	VBS
July 7-14.....	Burnt Hickory C of C.....	Medical//Construction
July 14-21	University C of C	Medical
Sept. 29 - Oct. 6	Surgical Brigade	Surgery
Oct. 6-13	VCOM Medical Team.....	Medical

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Other Giving

Mission UpReach is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit. We can assist you to designate MUR in a corporations' matching gifts program, or giving through a United Way campaign, or as you prepare wills for your estate.

Please contact us:

Our mailing address is as follows:

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Please send all checks, donations and correspondence to this address.

You can correspond directly with Phil and Donna at:

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