

REMEMBER

“I will remember the deeds of the Lord...” - Psalm 77

To know the Micah Project’s three high school graduates is to see with your own eyes the life-changing love of God. You might not make that connection right away: when you look at their high school graduation pictures from our November 13 ceremony, they seem like any other bright-eyed grads excited about the future.



But we remember a not-too-distant past in which there was no guarantee that they would survive to see their fourteenth birthday. There was the night in 2013 when we passed 11-year-old Junior while driving the Micah boys back from a soccer tournament around midnight. He was a forlorn figure on the deserted downtown streets, kicking a deflated soccer ball against a brick wall and huffing yellow glue fumes out of a plastic bag. How did this child end up so alone in the world? (Read more about that moment in our Summer 2013 letter called [“Into a Spacious Place”](#) on our [website](#)).

It took more than a year of patient trust-building after that encounter before Junior decided to enter the Micah House. That was only seven years ago and look at him now! Can the confident young man who has one of the highest averages in his class be that same glue-huffing street kid? Of course he can! He has a God who never stopped pursuing him.



JUNIOR



EDDIE

And then there's Eddie. He was born to a mentally ill street woman and was already on the streets while still in diapers. We have a video of nine-year-old Eddie sitting in an alley with a group of older street kids, a tiny kid already high on yellow glue. All the refuse from the daily bustle of the outdoor market ends up in that alley; it is a place for discarded trash and discarded children (Watch a video of Eddie's time in that alley [here](#)).



Nine years later, when they show up at Micah to visit Eddie, his mom is often drunk and belligerent and his brother reeks of yellow glue. Eddie, one of the kindest and most optimistic people you will ever meet, always treats them tenderly. The Eddie of 2021 has a quiet strength that makes those around him stronger as well and he radiates the amazing love that rescued him from the miry pit.

Noé (Spanish for Noah) was also so deeply addicted by the age of nine that he stumbled around like an old homeless man who had been an addict for decades. We found him sleeping under a bridge one Saturday in 2013 and invited him to join the Micah boys for a day at a park. He nodded yes but fell back asleep; we carried him to our van for the ride into the mountains. We were unable to rouse him when we got to the park, and, six hours later, he was still asleep as we drove back to the city. He missed the whole fun day! When he finally moved into the Micah House the following year, his nervous system was so shot that he couldn't walk in a straight line for his first several weeks. We feared that his childhood drug use may have caused permanent damage.

Last month, Noé competed in a 100-kilometer bike race through the mountains of Roatan, an island off the Caribbean coast of Honduras. Spectators that watched him compete thought he was a professional athlete. And although he is competitive by nature, he stopped at one point to help a biker who had fallen just in front of him. If you meet him, you will notice his athleticism, but you will also notice a strength that is undergirded by a sweet, gentle spirit.



NOÉ



Watching these three stride across the stage to accept their diploma, my heart connected with the awe expressed by the psalmist who exclaimed, "I will ponder all your work, and meditate on your mighty deeds" (Psalm 77:12). In these milestone moments in their lives, we marvel at the courage it took for them to imagine a future beyond the hopelessness to which they were born. What a privilege it is to witness our Father's love that broke into time and space to reclaim these lives!



Included in this mailing are postcards of our current group of Micah guys. We encourage you to pray for them daily. Though I related the beginning of these three stories and then fast-forwarded to the present, if you've been around Micah long enough, you know that the middle of the story can get messy. Our boys' path towards healing can be uneven and full of detours.

But that makes this graduation even more special: it is so clear that God used your prayers, love, and support to transform these lives. You are a part of the great cloud of witnesses who spur these guys on to keep running the race. We pray that these remembrances will also fill your hearts with joy and wonder. Thank you for being a part of our God's miraculous plan to redeem these precious souls as His sons.

Celebrating with you today,

Michael S. Hill

When we launched our Micah Cooks! culinary program in 2020 and our Micah Works! jobs training program in 2021, we never expected how quickly they would take off! The purpose of both programs is to provide practical skills to youth to help them step confidently into the work force... We have had nine young men go through our culinary program so far, and we have three street-connected youth who are thriving in our Micah Works training program. We are thrilled by how transformative both programs have been in these lives! Stay tuned as we launch the next phase of both of these exciting programs in 2022!

MICAH WORKS



MICAH COOKS

As we remember all that God has done in these lives, we cannot help but also remember the role each of you has played in that transformative process. Your prayers have sustained us. Your words of encouragement have strengthened us. Your financial gifts have provided all of these different channels through which God's love is extended to the youth of Honduras. Thank you for your faithfulness to respond to God's call. Donations can be given on our website or mailed to The Micah Project Dept. 357 P.O. Box 4346 Houston, Texas 77210



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