

ST. DAVID'S  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH



Make my joy complete: be of the same mind,  
having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind.  
Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit,  
but in humility regard others as better than yourselves.  
Let each of you look not to your own interests,  
but to the interests of others.

Philippians 2: 2-4

**Growing Together for Service**  
A Meditation from Amanda Scott



Nahomy received a 9<sup>th</sup> birthday gift from one of her cabin mates at the Children's Home. The children don't have any money nor do they have the opportunity to go shopping for presents. So, Nahomy's friend searched her few personal possessions to find a birthday present.

Nahomy was thrilled with the few bright, shiny silver coins her friend gave her. They had no real monetary value but were full of love. Just a few days later, Nahomy ran up to me with the coins. I was prepared to ooh and ahh over them again. Instead, she handed them to me and said, "Take them to my madrina (sponsor) when you go to the US." Imagine, as a 9-year-old, giving one of your few birthday gifts to someone else...receiving and then sharing love.

We had a medical brigade scheduled to come in early September. A brigade is a group of medical providers and lay people who bring their expertise and thousands of dollars of medications to Honduras.



Every day we pack up supplies and medications and hold clinics in churches or schools. With 4 providers we can see 250 people a day, 1,200+ in a week. These are people who have little or no access to medical care, many who suffer from chronic illnesses with no medications, who cannot even afford to buy 2 Tylenol. However, because of the COVID surge, we had to cancel. I had to inform the Honduran coordinators of each location we were going to. I dreaded this. My heart was broken as I began to notify the coordinators. I could only imagine how they would feel when they learned they wouldn't be able to help their communities. However, yet again, the Hondurans taught me a lesson in grace. The responses I received were:

"It's ok. I understand."

"Don't worry. Thanks for thinking of us. God bless you."

Ecclesiastes 3:1 – "There is a time for everything."

These are just two of countless stories of the generosity, sacrificial love, and grace I experience over and over in Honduras. How does this happen? People, who by our standards, have nothing, yet give everything. It all goes back to the beginning of Philippians 2: *"Therefore if you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any common sharing in the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion..."*

The worldly life has little to offer Hondurans so they lean into and rest in Jesus. They set their sights on the next life and thank God for the gift of each day. The Lord is faithful and fills them with his Spirit. The result? They live Philippians 2:2-4: *“then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and of one mind. Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.”*

## Prayer

Heavenly Father, may we all live our lives in a state of grace and generosity as our Honduran brothers and sisters do... receiving and then sharing love. Amen

