

Growing Godly Leaders

When Victor started attending a Vida School as a 12-year-old, he didn't imagine that one day he'd be a principal of a Christian School. He came from an impoverished home in an impoverished community, with no understanding of who Jesus is.



Victor's wife Glenda wasn't a Vida School student. But she remembers hearing the voices of Vida students in the distance, singing praises to God during their devotional time. "One day," she said to herself, "I want to be there, serving alongside those children."

At school, Victor found teachers and mentors who believed in him, guided him, and gave him opportunities to develop his gifts and leadership abilities. He came to know God, and he began to grow as a godly leader. Victor's teachers influenced him so much that he decided to become a teacher, returning to teach at Vida Schools.

Glenda joined staff a few years later. "My time serving in the schools strengthened my faith and allowed me to learn from leaders who were role models for my life," she says. Freshly graduated as a new teacher, she didn't imagine that one day she herself would be leading teachers.



Today, both Victor and Glenda are principals at Vida Schools. And Guatemalans are continuing to step into leadership roles at the school level, at the district level, and at the ministry level. "Seeing Guatemalan leaders take on greater responsibilities reflects the fruit of the discipleship and training that Impact has fostered for years," says Victor. "It is a sign of trust and the fruit of many years of investment," adds Glenda. "It also represents a great responsibility because we Guatemalan leaders are intimately familiar with the needs, challenges, and opportunities of our communities."

Victor and Glenda never imagined themselves as leaders

One of the most exciting things for Glenda is seeing so many former students now part of the staff team: "Young people who were themselves once reached and transformed by this work now serve to expand the Kingdom of God and bless others. We are witnessing the fulfillment of the ministry's mission: *to train leaders who impact their communities.*"

And the cycle continues. Victor and Glenda's oldest child, Caleb, now attends Vida Chamché - the same school where his father once studied. He has represented his grade in spelling bees, sports competitions, and Bible verse olympics, and he has represented the student body as a flag bearer. He is only 10 years old, but his teacher is already saying, "He has a great gift for leadership. Caleb will surely become a great leader and servant of the Lord, just as his parents are."

Thank you for walking alongside leaders like Victor and Glenda - and future leaders like Caleb. As Glenda says, "Every donation represents an opportunity to transform lives. You are investing in people, sowing hope, and participating in a work that has an eternal impact."



Today, their son is growing as a godly leader too



Meet more of our Guatemalan Leaders:
impactministries.ca/leaders





"Lord, allow each person serving in Impact Ministries to have a fervent love for You, a deep desire to do Your will, and a humble heart that recognizes that apart from You, we can do nothing. Help us to have attentive ears to Your voice. Father, continue impacting lives through Impact Ministries. May it be an instrument to carry Your Word to many more places, and may the leadership of Impact Ministries trust in the way You work."

~ Felipe Sierra (Director of Sustainability)

"Lord, may You be the one raising up this ministry, guiding and directing the hearts of our leaders. I ask that Your Holy Spirit direct every decision and every step. Help me also to grow, to learn, and to serve You better each day."

~ Glenda Mo (Principal, Vida Purulhá)

"I pray that our leaders may be visionary people who continue working joyfully to guide all those who follow them. May the purpose, vision, and mission of this ministry remain alive from generation to generation."

~ Neydy López (Principal, Vida Nueva)

"Lord, thank You for allowing me to be part of the blessing You pour out over Impact Ministries. Help me be a servant leader, more like You."

~ Gesler Mó
(Director of Technology & Multimedia)



"May every person who serves in the different areas have a reverence for You, lead others with humility, and remain faithful to Your Word."

~ Oscar Max (Principal, Vida Chamché PM)

"May we reflect Your love each day and draw more souls to You."

~ Glenda Macz (Principal, Vida Mochán Junior High)

"Do not allow the enemy to destroy this beautiful work that You have established in our town of Tactic. May many families change the way they raise their children, and may You be at the center of that transformation. May the new generations praise You, and may Vida Schools continue transforming lives."

~ Camilo Xoy (Financial Coordinator)

"Continue to raise up this ministry and strengthen every area, every pillar that sustains it. Continue to bless the brothers and sisters who support it; may You multiply what each of them has given to this ministry."

~ Gabriel Isem (Vice-Principal, Agua de Vida Chijulhá Junior High)

What better way to see the heart of our Guatemalan leaders than to listen in on their prayers for the ministry.

May these snippets bless you and inspire your own prayers for Impact Ministries and for our leaders.

AMEN



Today, What We Dreamed About Is Happening

When Rita and I moved to Guatemala in the year 2000, we had a dream. A dream to train Guatemalans for leadership. A dream that biblical principles would become so integrated into lives, that these Guatemalan leaders would effect spiritual change in their society. Our desire was to disciple a group of men and women who, in turn, would disciple others.

"May every project and every mission reflect Your glory and produce true and lasting fruit."

~ Hugo Quej (Director of Hospitality)

"Lord, what we have seen until now has already amazed us, and You will do even greater things than these. I ask that those of us who have received all of this may be a blessing to many others."

~ Elmer Poou (Principal, Vida Mochán Elementary)

25+ years ago, growing godly leaders in Guatemala was just that - a dream.

Today, what we dreamed about is happening.

Students who once studied in Vida schools are now leaders in the ministry. Young Christian leaders have matured in their faith and are pouring into a new generation. Our Guatemalan leaders are inspiring others to come to know Christ and to embrace that same vision. Transformation is happening: in individuals, in families, in communities.

In His goodness and faithfulness, the Lord has led us step by step: opening doors that we could never have opened ourselves and making a way where there seemed to be no way.

We've had front row seats to watch the Lord work in people's hearts and transform lives, and we look back in amazement and gratitude at all that the Lord has done.

For those of you who have been praying for Impact Ministries, who have sponsored children and classes, who have been involved in so many ways - you have been part of these stories, you have been part of this dream.

In Guatemala, there is a growing sense that the work, as marvelous as it already is, has only just begun. As we listen to these young men and women speak of what God is placing on their hearts, we cannot help but believe that the Lord is preparing to do even greater things in the years ahead.

Will you join this story that is still being written? Will you walk alongside the faithful leaders God is raising up in Guatemala? Your gifts will be part of the exciting chapters that are still to come.

~ Les Peters, Founder & Field Director



We look back in amazement and gratitude

☒ Yes, I want to be part of Growing Godly Leaders!

☐ Today's Gift: \$ _____

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☐ Sponsor a Class (\$50+) ☐ Sponsor a Child (\$49+)

Please make cheques payable to **Impact Ministries Canada**

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Spending of funds is confined to programs and projects approved by Impact Ministries. Should a donor designate a contribution, we will honour that designation, with the understanding that when the need for such a program or project has been met or cannot be completed for any reason as determined by Impact Ministries, the remaining designated gifts will be used where most needed. All gifts are tax deductible. Impact Ministries is committed to protecting your private information. The information you provide will be used to manage your sponsorship and communicate with you about our work. Thank you for your generosity.



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News and Updates

At the request of Guatemalan leadership, **Rita Peters is once again teaching sessions of the Impact Leadership Foundations course** to Vida principals, vice-principals and teachers, as well as board members and key staff. Whether taking the course for the first time or as a refresher, participants are appreciating the weekly opportunity to strengthen their leadership skills.



◀ **The Impact Clinic now has upgraded dental treatment rooms and a fully-functioning mobile clinic** that allows dentists to set up directly at Vida Schools. A local dentist continues to provide care to our students 2-3 weeks a month, supplemented by visiting professionals from Canada & the US. Learn about medical missions at impactministries.ca/medicalmissions.

In 2026, Vida Schools have served over **300,000 nutritious meals to students** before they begin their classes. These meals take aim at child malnutrition in Guatemala, and help children learn and thrive. Thank you sponsors and everyone who has given meals already. Want to take part? Provide meals at impactministries.ca/mealsforkids.



◀ **Vida Schools are recruiting English Teachers for the 2027 school year.** Volunteer for a semester or more in Guatemala between January and October to help Vida students learn English as a Foreign Language. More details at impactministries.ca/serveinguatemala.

Impact's Jubilation Fund provides a **new way to give a gift that keeps growing**. Through this capital restricted fund, you can make a lasting impact in Guatemala, knowing that your gift will be carefully invested to continue growing godly leaders for years to come. See impactministries.ca/donationoptions for details.



Impacting Guatemala through:

- ***schools***
- ***churches***
- ***medical & dental clinics***
- ***orphan care***
- ***sponsorship***
- ***short-term missions***

Contact Us

IN CANADA

Impact Ministries Canada

PO Box 975, Stn. Main
Kamloops, BC V2C 6H1
Phone: (250) 434-4350
Fax: (778) 470-1115
impactministries.ca
canada@impactministries.ca

IN THE UNITED STATES

Impact Ministries USA

PO Box 550
Duvall, WA 98019-0550
Phone: (617) 855-5259
impactminusa.org
info@impactminusa.org

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