

Chris and Holly Steed

Project for Hope with Serge

Serving in Guatemala

Serge
Grace at the Fray





Why Serge?

We have officially joined Serge, and are excited and ready to return to Guatemala with a renewed passion for the Gospel and sharing it with our neighbors there. Redeemed, Revived, and Renewed will be how we hope to launch into Guatemala this next season, dependent on Jesus, not on ourselves.

We have been serving in Guatemala for 10 years. We first went to Guatemala as independent missionaries without a sending agency. For years we have poured ourselves out into ministry. It took a toll on us and our family. During the pandemic we came to a place where we weren't sure if we could continue as missionaries in Guatemala. We knew we couldn't keep going the same way, but did not know exactly what we needed.

We crossed paths with other Serge missionaries in Guatemala. They shared about their agency and the member care support they offer. We thought this may be what God is providing for us to stay in Guatemala and not just survive, but thrive in the kingdom work He has called us to. Serge helped us get in touch with counselors and much needed discipleship. They saw our brokenness and knew that our brokenness and burnout does not disqualify us from ministry. God can still use us in spite of

our weakness. In fact, that is where His grace meets us, at the end of ourselves, at the fray.

Project for Hope is the work we have been doing in Guatemala and will continue to do, as part of Serge. We are excited to partner with them because of the support, guidance and supervision we will receive. No longer will we be "on our own" but will have a great team of people alongside us every step of the way. Not only making sure our family is thriving, but the ministry as well. We have access to new resources and we are looking forward to seeing how God uses this partnership to grow Project for Hope for His purposes.



Serge

Grace at the Fray

MISSION

Laying down our lives together for the Kingdom of Jesus Christ by establishing churches and transforming communities.

VISION

Movements of grace reaching all people, renewing all believers, and restoring all things for the world's good and God's glory.

The Project for Hope Story

Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.

EPHESIANS 3:20

In 2008, Chris participated in a team that formed a non-profit housing ministry that assisted families living in extreme poverty in Magdalena Milpas Altas, Guatemala. Through visits, the people of Magdalena pulled our hearts to Guatemala, as ***we sensed a higher purpose for our lives.***

During our early years in Guatemala, we were responsible for operations of the housing ministry that built over 200 homes and impacted many lives. Throughout this time, we observed the plight of widows and single mothers in the community. We identified key themes that keep these families in a generational cycle of poverty: lack of primary education, lack of access to employment, lack of access to basic healthcare.

As we looked more in-depth at the issues, we found that the lack of education was only part of the problem. Without an education, job opportunities are severely limited. Lack of work forces moms to perform menial tasks to buy beans and corn to survive. When these families are just trying to survive, kids are not able to go to school, and the cycle of poverty keeps going. If these women could work and earn a living wage, they could become self-sufficient.

And so, God put an exciting vision in our hearts for Project For Hope. A ministry for fatherless families that could provide employment, education, and healthcare. A place where we could invest in the lives of children, and minister holistically to the family. Shortly after that, we began Project For Hope on a unique 5-acre parcel located in Magdalena. Our leather workshop Esperanza Handmade, an education center, feeding center and an agriculture project are located on the property.

During our time in the US on furlough, God has renewed our calling to serve the Guatemalan people. ***His love has impacted us deeply, and we want to be vessels of His grace to those we serve.*** We want to see more people come to know His grace fully and see their lives transformed by the work of the Holy Spirit, even as He continues to do the same in us.



Our Mission

Project For Hope exists to share the life-changing love of Christ with fatherless families through vocational training for mothers, educational assistance for their children and basic healthcare for the family.

Our Vision

We envision our ministry operations center as an oasis where children receive education and care while the mothers earn a living wage. At the end of a regular workday, these families can return home together to enjoy family time. For each of our candidate families, this is currently impossible. These families are embroiled in a struggle to literally survive. Project for Hope ministers to the entire family holistically.



PROVIDING HOPE

That fatherless families under our care will know Jesus and His love for them. That they will know that there is Hope in Him.



MOTHERS AND WIDOWS

To see widows and single mothers equipped with the tools to live a self-sufficient life where they can take pride in their work and have the confidence to face the challenges of tomorrow.



CHILDREN

To see children and young people inspired and resourced to pursue an education that will give them hope for the future.

"Learn to do good; seek justice, correct oppression; bring justice to the fatherless, plead the widow's cause."

— ISAIAH 1:17