

## Faith Beyond Imagination

**“He encouraged me to think big. To look up far beyond my surroundings. To see things from God’s perspective. I thought I had, but since then I have learned that the Kingdom of God has no limits. It is beyond my imagination.”**

Pastor Mynor Toc serves the Tactic congregation of the Rio de Vida Church and also teaches Bible classes for the Junior and Senior High students at our Vida Schools. As he talks about his own faith and those who have encouraged him on the journey, it’s easy to see why he has been used so powerfully by God to raise up other young men in the ministry.



*Pastor Mynor Toc*

“He is a worshipper and spends time alone in worship with the Lord,” Les Peters explains. “He hears from God and has a wonderful way of relating what God has taught him. This closeness with the Lord makes him an ideal leader.”

Many of our leaders came to Impact as Vida students, but Mynor was already a teacher when he heard about the ministry. “I only went along to accompany my brother,” says Mynor about that first visit to Tactic from Cobán, “but I became very excited to find out what God was doing here.”



Mynor accepted the school worship leader position that was offered to him. Over the years, he transitioned from being a teacher to being a vice principal, then a principal, and now a pastor with Impact Ministries. “We have seen that wherever Mynor serves, the people who serve under his care feel nurtured, encouraged, challenged, and blessed,” says Les.



*Mynor has received discipleship and is continuing to disciple future generations*

Mynor is equally grateful for the discipleship he has received through Impact Ministries. “Les and Rita’s leadership has taught me to be willing to give my life to the service of the Lord,” says Mynor. “They have taught us, corrected and challenged us to seek more of the Lord.” And Mynor has shared this challenge with those he pastors and mentors. “I have seen in each of these areas the opportunity to reach out and help the youth and the brothers of the church to develop the character of Christ in their lives.”

Pastor Mynor continues to disciple those in the Rio de Vida congregation, as well as the students in his classes. “I never imagined that God wanted to use me to shepherd and take His Word to so many children, youth and adults,” he says.

Please pray for the leaders in our schools, in our churches and throughout the ministry, as they disciple others and as they grow their own faith beyond imagination.

## Sharing Hope in Crisis

To even better equip our leaders to provide spiritual care in their communities, Impact Ministries is partnering with the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association to bring their *Sharing Hope in Crisis* training to Guatemala this November, along with two intensive crisis intervention courses.

Leaders like Mynor are often asked to respond in times of crisis. This training teaches them how to offer hope while listening to and praying with people, along with in-depth strategies for assisting individuals in challenging situations and supporting grief following a crisis.

Will you help us equip leaders to offer God’s hope in difficult situations? Donate at [impactminusa.org/hopeincrisis](http://impactminusa.org/hopeincrisis) to help with our portion of the training costs.



*Mynor and a church member pray with a mother affected by Tropical Storm Eta*

# Our Trip to Guatemala Sealed the Deal

Can 10 days in Guatemala really make a lasting difference in the faith journey of those who go? Christina certainly thinks so! "I could go on forever about what my trip to Guatemala meant to me," she says. "It will always be part of our story, and we are so thankful for the work of Impact Ministries, on our behalf and for the people of Guatemala."

Christina and her husband Ben are currently participating in a ten-month training program before moving cross-culturally long term to reach an unreached people group with the gospel of Jesus. And they credit their Impact Trip, in part, for their decision.

When they were just recently married, Christina and Ben wanted to go on a mission trip together. "And our church was taking a trip with Impact," says Christina. "We had heard great things about the work of Impact Ministries in Guatemala, so we were very excited to see and experience it for ourselves."

The couple was part of the Coram Deo church team in 2018, and their time in Guatemala changed their lives: "The joy but also deep commitment and faith of the people there challenged me to look at how I prioritize my life and what it looks like to wholeheartedly follow Jesus regardless of circumstances."

Christina and Ben were already talking and praying about going into full-time cross-cultural ministry. "Our trip to Guatemala sealed the deal!" says Christina. The couple was encouraged by seeing that it really was possible to do what they hoped to do: to reach people who otherwise have no access to the gospel and train up Indigenous believers to lead the local community through a church. "Impact Ministries has done this amazingly," says Christina, "and seeing it in action was the final push we needed to say 'yes!'"



Are you ready to have your perspective challenged? Christina says, "Go! You will be out of your comfort zone, but you will leave with a greater appreciation for God and His church across the world."

With most travel restrictions lifted, Impact Ministries welcomed our first short-term mission team back to Guatemala in August! We're once again scheduling teams, accepting applications for our Sponsorship and Open Medical Teams, and looking forward to seeing many of you in Guatemala! Now is the time to reach out to schedule your team or to start the process of joining an Impact Trip. Learn more at [impactminusa.org/teams](https://www.impactminusa.org/teams).



# Longing for More

Impact Ministries has always been about training, impacting, and growing. Everything we do, from our schools and churches to our short-term mission teams, is designed to equip disciples to follow Jesus anywhere, anytime and at any cost.

That's why we're so excited to be launching the VIDA School of Discipleship! "Often, after a ten-day mission, we hear participants wishing they could be further involved with what God is accomplishing in Guatemala," says Founder and Field Director, Les Peters. "They taste of God's goodness and long for more!"

The VIDA School of Discipleship invites North Americans to spend three months in Guatemala, living in intentional community and participating in intensive discipleship opportunities. They'll apply lessons learned by engaging in local churches, interacting in our Vida Schools, and participating in outreach opportunities in the local community. But the discipleship journey doesn't end after Guatemala; participants continue connecting with their class via weekly online meetings and continued mentorship for nine more months back home.

"We anticipate that students will emerge transformed, having discovered their calling," says Les, "with a fresh relationship with Christ, a Kingdom perspective, and a love for the lost, for God's Word and for the Body of Christ."

Please pray for Impact Ministries as we lay the groundwork for this wonderful new component of ministry. The Lead Team is carefully considering the applications we have already received, and the construction crew is working on renovating and repurposing the Chicoy Campus into a place where our participants can live, learn and grow. We're thrilled to be able to welcome the very first VIDA School of Discipleship cohort in 2022.

If you or someone you know is looking for an intensive disciple adventure, you can learn more or apply at [impactminusa.org/schoolofdiscipleship](https://impactminusa.org/schoolofdiscipleship). The application deadline for the January session is November 15<sup>th</sup>.

## Vision

See the world as God sees it

## Impact

Live life intentionally

## Delight

Experience intimacy with Jesus

## Adventure

Dare to follow Jesus



## I want to Equip Disciples!

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## Donate Online

Recurring donations by Credit Card or E-check (ACH) can be made at:

[impactminusa.org/donate](https://impactminusa.org/donate)

**Impact is again welcoming teams to Guatemala!** Our first team back spent lots of time at the medical clinic, as well as participating in outreach programs and class visits. Check out [impactminusa.org/teams](http://impactminusa.org/teams) to find out how you can come to Guatemala too.



◀ **It's been a bit of a chaotic year, but** with less than a month of classes left in Guatemala, we can confidently say that through it all, God has provided. Vida Schools saw over 1700 students registered this year and over 90% of these students have a sponsor. We also successfully piloted a weekend extension program.

**The Impact Medical Clinic is being revitalized, with Dr. Chris Brandenburg pioneering the role of Medical Engagement Coordinator.** Dr. Chris is working with Guatemalan and North American medical personnel to ensure the medical clinic is consistently staffed. Check out [impactminusa.org/medical](http://impactminusa.org/medical) to see how you can help by giving or going.



◀ **The Vida Children's Home is getting a playground!** We're partnering with *Kids Around the World*, who is refurbishing and providing the playground at minimal cost, and *Another Child Foundation* who is helping us get it to Guatemala. The installation is planned for November!

**Have you joined VidaLive "on location" in Guatemala yet?** Since this summer, we've been hosting short interactive online events streamed live from our various ministry locations in Guatemala. Learn more (& join the next one) at [impactminusa.org/vidalive](http://impactminusa.org/vidalive)



## Serving in Guatemala

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