

## The God Who Sees

August 2021



We met Sarai in a very inauspicious way. She and her husband along with their two kids, Lia (7) and David (6), lived in a small apartment next door to a family we know who's building a new home about twenty minutes south of Tijuana. Armando and Pilar (Spectrum staff) who were helping with the house befriended the family and began to get to know them.

One day, they heard a lot of arguing and screaming coming from Sarai's apartment. Pilar's wife Karina who was with them that day, saw Sarai's husband get in their little car and speed away down the road. She decided to go over and check in to see how Sarai was doing. When she opened the door Karina saw a large red mark around Sarai's eye that was already beginning to swell. As they talked Sarai opened up to Karina that her husband had indeed been hitting her for quite some time and the violence seemed to be getting worse. As scary as it was for Sarai to take her two kids and leave, she decided it was her only option to keep she and her kids safe.

Sarai, Lia and David are so grateful to have a secure roof over their heads.

The next question was, where would they go? She had a piece of land, on which sat the beginnings of a cinder block house. The four walls were in place with holes for windows but the structure had no roof. As much as she wanted to move in, the house just wasn't ready.

The good news is that Sarai had the great fortune to find a job cleaning newly built homes for a construction company. The business gave her a small truck to get from place to place. For sometime, she kept all of their belongings in the truck and she and her kids would sleep in the houses they were cleaning. Eventually with the cost of materials going up, the company had to lay her off. They allowed her to keep the truck but the small family was now out of options as to where they would live. The answer? Sarai got herself a quickly cramped two person tent for the three of them and set it up in her house with no roof.

Thankfully Karina checked in on the family to see how they were doing and



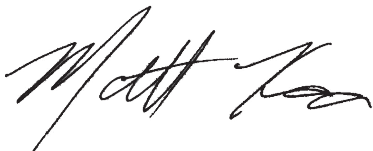
A couple of tarps are all they have to give them shade by day and keep the dew off them at night.

saw their situation. She immediately told Armando, who shared the story with our head of construction, Arturo. Arturo talked with Sarai and determined that if Spectrum could just help with a roof, windows and a solid door, the house would be move in ready. Thanks to the construction funds many of you sent in, wood is being delivered today as we speak and Sarai and her kids will have a new roof tomorrow! Praise God!

Throughout this time, God has been working in Sarai's heart in many ways. Karina invited her and her kids to church with them, and the kids loved it! Certainly, Sarai has been learning the truth of Jesus' words to His disciples in John 16:33. "...In this world you will have trouble.." But at the same time she's beginning to see that in the midst of her troubles, she can turn to God and He will take care of her. As hard as her struggles have been, she's trusting that God sees her, He loves her and He won't let her down!

Thank you for your prayers and gifts that allow us to be here as God's representatives to those in need. The doors that are opened to families like Sarai's are an extraordinary opportunity to let them know who God is, His great love for them, and how they can know Him because of what Jesus has done.

From all of us at Spectrum,



Matt Kooi  
Director of Spectrum Ministries

PS - We had a great camp August 6-8! Over 130 kids attended. Thank you to all who gave and prayed. To get a glimpse of what went on, go to our website [spectrumministries.org](http://spectrumministries.org) and watch our camp video!



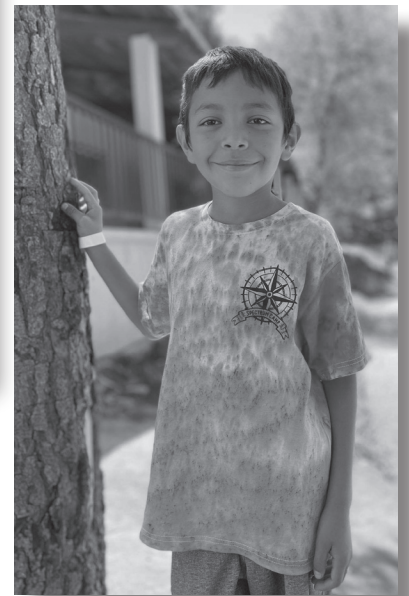
Kids were so thankful to be back to camp after having to miss 2020.



Water games are always a hit when camp is in August!



One of the things the kids often tell us is how much they love the camp food!



The kids loved doing their tie-dye t-shirt craft which also gave them a great souvenir to take home!

*"Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in me." - John 14:1*