

LOVING HONDURAS

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c/o SAMS, P O BOX 339, Ambridge, PA 15003

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Dear Mission Partners,

We've started the harvesting rainwater project. You've only bought pipes/gutters for fifteen houses so far, but they were installed by the home-owners within 24 hours.

I have the pipes cut in half lengthwise with an electric saw in Santa Rita, which has electricity. Each house gets a half pipe and an elbow, and downspout, and three or four rebar hangers.

In a previous rainwater harvesting project in San Lorenzo, about six years ago and before there were pilas, I bought barrels to catch the water, but due to inadequate funding, I bought 2-inch pipes to split. Like the funding, they were quite inadequate, also. They were too narrow to catch the water, and too flimsy to hold their shape.

This time, I bought six-inch drainage pipes. They look like they are going to work.

As you can tell, some of the pilas are a long way from the house and the owners have had to improvise a way to get the rainwater from the downspout to the pila.

Yesterday when it rained just $\frac{1}{2}$ inch, the gutters filled a barrel at each house.

The success of the project won't really be known until next year when the rainy season starts, but the people will be ready with their gutters.

I hope to purchase gutters for the remainder of the houses in December.

*For His Sake,
Jeannie*



Top: Denia's house with the gutter installed, and below, Mayra's house with hers installed. All the houses in San Lorenzo, including mine, are adobe. Denia's house is new, so she hasn't spackled it with mud yet. But Mayra has put a layer of mud on hers, and whitewashed it. Last year she built the surround around the porch.



But I say, love your enemies. Pray for those who persecute you! In that way you will be acting as true children of your Father in heaven. For he gives his sunlight to both the evil and the good, and he sends rain on the just and the unjust, too. If you only love those who love you, what good is that? Even corrupt tax collectors do that much. If you are kind only to your friends, how are you different from anyone else? Even the pagans do that. But you are to be perfect, even as your Father in heaven is perfect. Matthew 6: 44 – 47 NLT



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~Jeannie Loving ~ Serving in El Paraíso, Honduras~

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WHAT ARE PILAS?

Pilas are the above-ground storage tanks for water in every house. The families get all their water from the pila for cooking and washing. Traditional pilas are built out of bricks and are rectangular-shaped. The ferro-cement pilas in San Lorenzo are oblong. Except in San Lorenzo, the very poor do not have pilas.

WHY DO HONDURANS HAVE PILAS?

In Honduras and many other countries, water is not delivered 24/7. Water may come anywhere from three times a week to once a month. So when the water comes, residents fill their pila, barrels, and jugs, anything that will hold water. Usually they fill jugs for drinking water first, so the drinking water is cleaner. Pilas are generally scoured and cleaned just before the water comes. Because they are a source for breeding mosquitoes, the government gives out bags of Abate to put in them to destroy mosquito eggs.



PRAYER AND PRAISE REQUESTS

PRAY FOR CONTINUED RAIN IN VALLE DE JAMAISTRAN AND A GOOD SECOND GROWING SEASON.

PRAY FOR A SOLUTION TO MASSIVE CROP FAILURE IN HONDURAS DUE TO CLIMATE CHANGE. SAN LORENZO WAS BLESSED.

PRAY FOR JEANNIE'S CONTINUED GOOD HEALTH AND ENERGY ON THE MISSION FIELD.

PRAY FOR HILDA'S ANKLE SURGERY NEXT MONTH.

Above: Petrona shows how she gets the water from the downspout to the pila using roofing sheets. Petrona is a widow. Right after her husband died two years ago, the house was an unroofed shell. A supporter gave me money to buy the roofing for her house so she would have a place to live. **Below:** Diana has a different way of getting the water to the pila. Notice the rain falling into the small split pipes and then to the pila at left. The day after I handed out the gutters, it drizzled all day and put about 30 gallons into the pilas. More water can be harvested from the tin roofs than from the clay tiled roofs. The clay absorbs the water.



Inez's gutter empties right into the pila, which is perfectly situated. Several houses have put a barrel underneath the downspout and will then transfer the water from the barrel to the pila in buckets. This often necessitates getting up in the middle of the night and going outside in the rain to do transferring, but no one is unhappy about that. Below: Carmen is using hollowed coyol trunks placed to reach her pila.



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This is a gift to keep Jeannie Loving in Honduras \$ _____: or This is a gift for Jeannie's projects: \$ _____

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