

# ANCHOR SPONSOR NEWSLETTER



FREEDOM INTERNATIONAL MINISTRIES

OCTOBER 2019

## The Impact of Camp

Jason Hilgeman,  
President of Freedom International



Nightly devos in the new cabins

We have started our 9<sup>th</sup> year of school with just over 400 students in PK3 through 6<sup>th</sup> grade! Thank you for investing as one of our Anchor Sponsors. The Lord has been incredible in His provision for this ministry, and we are thankful to Him for each life He sends us.

You are well aware that

at Freedom, we have a goal beyond excellent education. We want our students to *Love God, Love People, and Live out Their Design!* We want them to be whole as they find their identity in Christ and live life for the glory of God. This is an uphill battle, made even more difficult because of the environment in which many of our students grow up. Our teachers are doing a great job laying an integrated, biblical foundation for our students. They are being equipped with a clear, biblical worldview and they see it across the disciplines.

One of the exciting new initiatives this year is the overnight camp ministry

which will build on that foundation. As students grow up and come into the elementary years, camp will be a part of their experience. Camp creates a reflective environment where things can be slowed down and “the bell” doesn’t ring. It offers a low camper-counselor ratio. In that atmosphere, our staff have the opportunity to deepen relationships with students and help guide their thinking as they learn to process their experiences from a biblical perspective.



Saturday soccer game

## OUR MISSION

Equip others to engage culture according to their design.

## OUR VISION

Develop life-changing relationships with those most unlikely so that they become catalysts for change within the Dominican Republic.



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## The Impact of Camp (cont'd)



Hamburgers for dinner

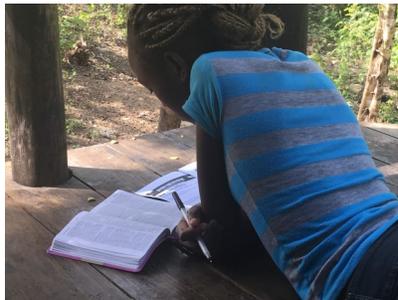
The Bible says, “Be very careful, then, how you live—not as unwise but as wise, making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil” (Ephesians 5:15-16). The days are “evil” because they do not lend themselves to the kind of behavior that makes the “most of every opportunity.” Instead, routine sneaks in and makes it difficult to intentionally think about life. But, camp offers our students

the opportunity to step out of their routines and to be immersed in an environment free from distraction where they will be encouraged to reflect on their values and consider the course of their lives.

The plan at this point is for our kids to receive a weekend camp (3 days/2 nights) and a weekday camp (5 days/4 nights) each school year starting in the fall of 2019. Pray

with us about this opportunity that the Lord will use this time to bring to the surface perspectives He wants changed. Pray for our staff that we will be wise in our observations and interactions and that God will get the glory for all that is done in camp.

We appreciate you and are thankful for your partnership with the Lord in what He is doing in the lives of your students!



## MEET YOUR TEACHER



*This is Javier's first year as the 5th grade teacher*

**Name:** Javier  
**Birthday:** October 1  
**Hometown:** San Pedro de Macoris  
**Favorite Food:** Rice and beans with Eggplant  
**Favorite Hobby:** Reading  
**Favorite Fruit:** Banana  
**Favorite Song:** "The Glory of the Cross" by Sovereign Grace Music

**Favorite Sport:** Baseball  
**Favorite Bible verse:** Romans 6:14—"For sin shall not be master over you, for you are not under law but under grace."  
**Why did you decide to work at Freedom?** I have always liked missions, and I have the desire to serve others. Furthermore, I'm learning new cultures and growing personally.

**What is the most difficult thing about being a teacher?** It can be hard to attend to the diversity represented in each of the students. Each child is unique.

**What is the best thing about being a teacher?** I like to see the behavioral changes in the students when they come to faith in Jesus Christ.

## TEACHER TRAINING

We've moved into year 2 of our training program for Dominican teachers! About 20 teachers are taking advantage of the daily classes that are being offered: *Worldview, Professional Development, Academic Content, and English.*

Eunice, one of our new teachers, recently said,

"Even though this program is really challenging to keep up with along with my other responsibilities, it's good. Change can't happen if we're not willing to learn."

Because of your faithful giving, these teachers have the opportunity to learn and grow. Pray for them—

as well as the missionaries involved in planning and training. Our desire is to see the Lord use these men and women to disciple others!



"THE BEST THING ABOUT BEING A TEACHER IS THAT IT MATTERS. THE HARDEST THING ABOUT BEING A TEACHER IS THAT IT MATTERS EVERYDAY."

- TODD WHITAKER

## PRAY WITH US



*Your prayers make a difference! Here are some requests that Mr. Javier wrote out to share with you. Pray for him as he seeks to teach these students to the best of his ability. We'd love for you to join us in lifting these things up to the Lord in the coming months!*

"First, I want to thank you for the love you've shown to each student in 5th grade. Also, I want to share that God is doing big things in this class. We do have some prayer requests:

- Pray for the salvation of each student. That is most important.
- Pray also for the salvation of each child's family.
- Pray that student behavior continues to improve—from the inside out.
- Pray for the future that awaits each child.

- Javier

# AROUND FREEDOM



CHECK OUT WHAT'S HAPPENING AT FREEDOM AS THE NEW YEAR BEGINS!



Bible class with Mr. Javier



Thumbs up from Yudeison



Practicing bounce passes



Marleny & Carla



Computer class



Yeny

Our ultimate desire is to see people glorify the Lord in all areas of life. We believe that long-term discipleship is the way that lives are changed. We want to use programs that will best reach our children and families with the life-giving gospel of Jesus Christ. One of the biggest advantages of our programming is that it opens doors and opportunities. We would consider it a huge success if someone headed for illiteracy became a doctor and used medicine to make God famous. In the same way, if a person who loved farming went back to work in the sugarcane fields for the glory of God, that, too would be a great achievement. Specifically, we want to train people to glorify God in 3 areas: by walking in relationship with the Lord, developing wholesome relationships with others, and using their God-given uniqueness to live for Him.

2905 East 46th Street  
Indianapolis, IN 46205

[itisforfreedom.com](http://itisforfreedom.com)



Writing and making recipes for a project in Language Arts class



Javier was the taste tester!