



i once was **blind**  
but now i **see**  
mark 8:22-26

**DENISE & JUAN ARAGÓN, CHIAPAS, MEXICO**

## **SEEING GOD WORK THROUGH RELATIONSHIPS**

Before we relocated to Mexico, several friends, colleagues, and mentors suggested that, rather than rushing into “ministry work,” we should not underestimate the power of building relationships, especially in our first term of service.

In many conversations over meals, cooking tortillas, doing dishes, playing with the children, celebrating baptisms, a wedding, birthdays, the birth of a child, and mourning with them during the death of a baby, we’ve sought to do this. We learned basic Tsotsil and Tselatl phrases to show our appreciation and respect, and made the effort to travel and visit our ministry partners as a family even while we were helping our children adjust to life in Mexico.

When we first responded to God’s call to serve with our partners in Chiapas, little did we imagine the impact of investing in relationships. When Juan was diagnosed with a rare condition in May 2019, our Tsotsil and Tselatl sisters and brothers held us up in prayer and encouraged our family. It humbled us as, in the midst of their financial scarcity, they raised love offerings for his medical expenses. We’ve experienced the fruit of nurturing relationships; we trust the Lord will use these relationships to transform lives for his glory.

**Denise & Juan Aragón** | *IM Global Servants for Theological Education, Peace & Justice, Education*

*Denise and Juan serve in partnership with the Council of Rural Indigenous Evangelicals of Mexico (CICEM) in Chiapas. They work in training, prevention, and education as they learn local needs and look for ways to empower community leaders emotionally and economically. Juan focuses on theological education and leadership training as he accompanies and disciples new church leaders. Denise seeks to empower women, especially victims of domestic abuse.*

### **JOIN US IN PRAYING**

- For God’s protection on the roads we travel.
- For people willing to serve in women’s and children’s ministry in our partner churches.
- For our family’s transition to US/PR assignment in 2021-22.

**JOIN US BY GIVING** to the World Mission Offering through your church or online at [www.worldmissionoffering.org](http://www.worldmissionoffering.org). Thank you!