

FEBRUARY 2020



SETH, WHITNEY,
MCCLAIN & SHEP

Greetings from Georgia! We hope and trust your new decade has started off well! We're excited to share with you all that God has been doing over the last two months. Recently, both Seth and I have had the chance to go to Cuba and I wish we could tell you every single story of life change that took place. This was my first Filter of Hope trip and I returned home simply in awe that this is the work God has called our family to. Thank you for partnering with us to take clean water and the Gospel to the world.

Over the course of my three days in Cuba, my team had the privilege of distributing 60 filters to families in need. Every morning before visiting homes in the villages, we gathered at the local church and prayed with the pastor as well as connected with the church members who would be going with us. Our team split up into groups of 3-4 and headed out to install filters and share the Gospel. While I would love to share with you every name and every story, I'll stick to one that had the most impact on me.

My last morning in Cuba was one I will never forget. We had to cross a dilapidated bridge and walk a good ways to get to what they call "The Valley". Most neighborhoods in Cuba are very poor, but The Valley seemed impoverished on an even deeper level. The second home we had the privilege of visiting was home to a single mom, Mildred, and her nine year old daughter, Sylvia. A few of Mildred's nieces were there too. Pictured to the left is what we saw when we entered their house. It's a wall completely decorated with idols. Many of the idols belonged to Mildred's father who has since passed away but she keeps them because it is a part of their family's religion, Santeria. Many people in this particular area of Havana practice Santeria, and it is a cult that requires the worship of man made idols.



Mildred shared with us that she boils their water for her daughter, but at times it's hard because they don't have a direct gas line and buying propane is often expensive and in short supply throughout Cuba. Both she and Sylvia have had health issues at times due to the poor quality of water, so when we explained that the filter was a gift for her she was beside herself with joy and excitement! The filter literally changed Mildred and Sylvia's lives because they no longer have to boil their water or live in fear of not having enough propane to boil it! After we demonstrated how the filter works, we explained to Mildred that we brought a second gift for her, the gift of knowing how to have a relationship with Jesus. For the next hour or so, we shared the Gospel with Mildred. While she was eager to know about Jesus, we also got to talk about how Jesus is the only way and He is the only one who gives us assurance that we will spend eternity in heaven with Him. It brought a completely new light to what God says in Psalm 115:4-8, *"Their idols are silver and gold, the work of human hands. They have mouths, but do not speak; eyes, but do not see. They have ears, but do not hear; noses but do not smell. They have hands, but do not feel; feet, but do not walk; and they do not make a sound in their throat. Those who make them become like them; so do all who trust in them."*

On January 31, 2020, Mildred received Jesus as her Savior and began a relationship with the one true God. Please join us in praying that she would connect with the local church, begin to grow in her faith and understanding of the depth to which God loves her. Thank you for your faithful prayers and support in giving people like Mildred clean water and the opportunity to spend eternity with Jesus!



Our New Contact Info:
seth@filterofhope.org
whitney@filterofhope.org

13251 Marrywood Dr
Alpharetta, GA 30004

