

**El Salvador – Abelines & Tinteral**  
**Providing physical and spiritual nourishment to 541**  
**children**  
**Report Back 2016**



We are so grateful for the support you are providing to children in El Salvador who attend our partner's Sunday school.

Life in the remote areas of Abelines and Tinteral, El Salvador is tough. Poverty is endemic and communities struggle with the threat of gang violence on a daily basis. Children are most at risk, enduring constant threat of violence as they work long days with their parents, picking coffee beans in the fields.

Our partner's Sunday School project is run by volunteers. Each week, 541 children come to Sunday School and receive a nutritious meal of rice and milk. This food is highly calorific, essential for the children who are poorly nourished. Our partners run eight Sunday School provisions in Abelines and three in Tinterel, and during 2016 they needed to serve more children than ever.

Our partners recognise that the children come for the food, they are hungry, but they stay and listen to the Bible stories and so receive the Gospel message each week.

Our partners testify to how spiritual nourishment is bearing fruit in the young lives within these communities. The Sunday School is an important constant in the children's lives where love is shown in practical ways. One little boy recently asked *"why can't we have Sunday school every day so we can have food every day."*

Antonio is 16, but has been coming to Sunday school for many years.

He says, *"I remember that I could barely even walk when I started coming but I was always waiting for Sunday to come so I could go to class. Now all this time has passed and I haven't missed a single Sunday school. My three brothers don't go any more but I don't miss it.*

*The best part is that now my mother and almost the whole family goes to the church. I would like to be a teacher when I am older. In school I behave well and though my community is a distance from church I still invite classmates from my school to go with me to Sunday school. Thank you for supporting my Sunday school."*



Though their work with the children is central, over the years, our partners have extended their ministry as they seek to provide for some of the most disadvantaged families within the community. This year six families from Abelines were supported with additional food of rice, oil and canned sardines. Food shortage is a real issue throughout the area at the moment as last season's harvest was so poor due to the drought. Some families migrated to San Salvador in search of work, but many returned due to the violence in the city.

Our partners planted vegetables as part of the 'model home garden' to show families how they can gain more food from their own surroundings and they will be sharing this harvest with families. They have planted squash, which is proving to be easy to grow and the children can learn how to tend them easily. There was a good rainy season this year and everyone is hopeful that they will be able to recoup the losses of last year.

***Once again, we and our partners thank you for your continued support of our work with children and families from Abelines and Tinteral.***



