

NEWS STORIES FOR LUTHERAN HOUR MINISTRIES INTERNATIONAL

Trust, honesty lead to new relationships

Dec. 18 — NICARAGUA: Most people would say trust is one of the most essential parts of any relationship, including the relationship between a parent and child. Parents naturally worry about their child's well-being-even more so when a parent feels their child's moral values come into question. Jacquelyn's father, "Roberto," was worried about his teenaged daughter when he discovered she was lying to him about where she was going. When he discovered the lies, Roberto began to mistrust his daughter. He became angry toward Jacquelyn when he found out she was volunteering in an organization he knew nothing about.

Jacquelyn was one of the first volunteers at the Lutheran Hour Ministries (LHM)-Nicaragua office, and she didn't know how her father would react. She also didn't realize how much lies, even small ones, harm a relationship.

She usually deceived her father by telling him she was going to visit friends. This was true for her in a way. Jacquelyn was teaching Bible courses to children in communities and schools. But, like most parents, Roberto focused on the deception rather than what she was actually doing.

Jacquelyn and her father argued about the lies and that she was not obeying him. Throughout the arguments, however, Roberto began seeing how much his daughter cared about what she was doing to help others.

He began looking at the Christian activities that the LHM ministry was carrying on. At the same time, he also began to show interest in the ministry.

Roberto now understands why his daughter was so moved to help and why she was deceiving him. And, Jacquelyn has learned the value of truth and trust in their relationship. Roberto, who is a schoolteacher, not only allows his daughter to participate in the ministry, he has also invited his students to become volunteers of LHM-Nicaragua.

Roberto thanks God and his daughter for bringing him nearer to Jesus Christ.

Gerald Sonnenberg