



As we prepare to celebrate our 18th Christmas since moving to Guatemala, we give God the glory for all the experiences, joys and even the trials and tribulations those years have brought us. We know the Lord brought us here in 1996 to serve the Guatemalan people, but we feel we are the ones who have been so blessed by their friendships. Serving on the mission-field has caused us to grow and mature in our own Christian faith and in our personal relationship with Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. (We are pictured here in typical Mayan outfits. These pictures were taken in the year 2000.)



We pray this finds you preparing for your own celebration of Jesus' birth. Let us never forget the true meaning of <u>Christmas</u>. May we enjoy the fragrance of the holiday cooking, savoring dishes we only make once a year. May we enjoy the laughter of little ones, be it our own children or grandchildren, nephews and nieces or simply children God has put in our lives. May we enjoy the lights and festive colors as we adorn our trees and our homes......but may we never forget that if God's son, Jesus, had not come to earth as a baby, we would not be celebrating Christmas.

2013 has brought many memorable experiences to us, all of which we can give God the glory. We started the year with Lisa having a cancer scare. We watched God's holy hand upon her and all is very well. (no cancer) Just before Mother's Day, we said our final good-byes, this side of heaven, to Lisa's mother, L.J., which subsequently took us to Arizona. Before going to Arizona, we hosted a family for six weeks in our home and more recently, a team made up of God's servants from California, Tennessee, Nebraska and Virginia. We were then notified of our brother-in-law's home-going. It has been a very full year for sure, but one we can look back on and give praise to the One who gave us life, the One who gives us grace, the One who shows us mercy and the One who has forgiven our sins, Jesus Christ.

Each year many folks are looking to give end-of-year gifts as a possible way to help reduce their tax liability. If you are one of those folks or simply want to help support this ministry, here are some things to keep in mind. Contributions mailed to CTEN must be postmarked no later than December 31<sup>st</sup>. Online credit-card donations must be posted through CTEN's website no later than December 31<sup>st</sup>. CTEN is also able to receive contributions of stocks, bonds and mutual funds, which are then sold and the proceeds provided to the missionaries. Remember that any year-end gifts of stocks, bonds or mutual funds must be received in CTEN'S brokerage account by December 31<sup>st</sup>. Call 800-872-5404 for more information. Be sure and indicate to CTEN that it is your desire for the donation to be directed to our ministry, Art & Lisa Camarena, Ambassadors for Jesus Christ. (www.CamarenaGuatemala.com) May the Lord bless you and your family with a very **MERRY CHRISTMAS!!!!** 

