

## **My Missions Story**

Shoebboxes, just a little key that opens the door to the gospel.

In the fall of 2014 I decided to go on a trip with Samaritan's Purse. They helped me get everything going and looked after everything from flights and accommodation to insurance. My friends helped make it happen with their donations.

So in February of 2015, I joined up with the team and traveled to Costa Rica. We met up with the local Ministry organization, Movienda Esperanza, who had done so much preparation with local churches and then those people did so much in preparing and inviting the children.

The gospel was given in several different dramatic ways before the shoeboxes are handed out. We did 5 shoebox deliveries.

Then the count down and the boxes are ripped open, If we don't cut the tape first. It is so wonderful to see the faces of the children as they receive the items. Possibly items that you packed in a box and prayed over.

To see the children so interested in the story book of Jesus that they had received earlier. Those children would then be invited to the Greatest Journey classes. We went to one of the classes starting up and also to a graduation. I met one grandpa who was so please that his grandchild had gone through the classes to meet Jesus.

We always prayed for the local ministry group and they were so grateful for us coming. I felt we did so very little and those volunteers had done so much.

It was all about presenting the gospel to children who wouldn't otherwise hear except through the delivery of the shoebox. Several go on to the classes and many receive Christ, and their families.

There are many stories of the children receiving exactly what they needed as God's hand leads every box through our prayers.

I would highly recommend a trip with Samaritan's Purse as we were looked after so well before, during and after the trip. What a way to be the hands and feet of Jesus and make new friends.

In the name of Jesus.

Eleanor Shoebridge