

When Darkness Does Not Win: Josué's Story and a Family That Learned to Believe Again

In the village of Xenimajuyú, where the land is cultivated through hard work and life is sustained by hope, lives Josué Salomón Muj, a 33-year-old husband to Elsa and father of three daughters who are his greatest strength: Joselyn Asuseli, 12; Fátima Julisa, 10; and Reyna Marleny, 8.

Josué's story is the story of many, yet it is also one that deserves to be told slowly, thoughtfully, and with an open heart.

Josué had a typical childhood and youth, shaped by economic hardship but grounded in strong values and a deep culture of hard work. From a young age, he learned that daily effort was the only way to provide for his family. He never imagined that at 31 years old, his life would change so dramatically.

It began with discomfort in his eyes: intense pain, blurred vision, persistent shadows. Josué knew something was wrong. In his memory lived the painful experience of his father, who had suffered from the same illness and had gone completely blind. Fearful yet responsible, Josué sought medical attention.

The diagnosis was devastating: glaucoma. A silent, progressive, and costly disease. Doctors recommended immediate treatment, but economic reality was unforgiving. Josué came from a low-income family dedicated to subsistence farming. Medical exams, medications, and follow-up care were beyond his reach. Without proper treatment, the disease progressed until it took his sight entirely.

Losing his vision meant far more than losing his ability to work or becoming dependent on others. It meant no longer seeing his daughters' faces, no longer being able to fix his home, no longer feeling useful. Josué fell into deep sadness. He expressed it himself in words that were painful to hear: he felt he had lost the meaning of life. His expression reflected worry, exhaustion, and hopelessness.

It was at that moment, when everything seemed lost, that an angel appeared.

Through Don Neemías, a foundation volunteer, we met Josué. Kathleen Price, director of **Mission of Love**, had been visiting the village of Xenimajuyú for years, accompanying families affected by glaucoma and living in extreme vulnerability. Each visit brought food, clothing, and basic necessities, but above all, it brought something far more valuable: presence, listening, commitment, and love.

During one of these visits, Kathleen met Josué. She saw a man broken, discouraged, without hope. She listened attentively and, with the strength that comes from genuine compassion, assured him that he was not alone, that he must continue fighting for his wife and daughters, and that she would support him. That day did not solve every problem, but it marked the beginning of renewed hope for the Salomón Yax family.

Through coordination with the **Committee for the Blind and Deaf of Guatemala**, Josué received immediate support. The process began with psychological counseling, a critical step to help him understand his new reality, heal emotionally, and rebuild his self-esteem. Later, he began an independence training program divided into several three-month phases.

The classes were held in El Tejar, Chimaltenango, about an hour from Tecpán. Thanks to the donation of a minibus by Kathleen Price and the support of volunteer Andrés García, who transported him, Josué was able to attend consistently. During those months, he learned how to cook, sew, read, and write using adapted methods. Each skill learned was a victory. His face changed, his attitude shifted. He began to believe in himself again.

In November, during Kathleen's most recent visit, Josué was asked what his family needed most. With humility, he explained that since losing his sight, he had been unable to improve his home, a small house for a family of five. When Kathleen asked what he wished for most, he requested an additional room for his family.

The response was immediate. Construction and home improvements began, led by Walter, a builder who works with **Mission of Love**. This project brought dignity, relief, and security to Josué's family. But the support did not stop there.

Aware of the family's financial situation, where the only income came from Elsa's daily work, volunteers decided to help Josué start a flower garden. Don Neemías led the initiative, teaching him how to plant and care for the flowers. Within fifteen days, results began to appear. Today, Josué sells the flowers and generates his own income, once again contributing to his family's well-being.

In addition, the foundation provided direct support to the children in the home. The girls received backpacks and school supplies, and the family was given a stove, improving their ability to prepare meals and easing the daily burden on Elsa. Each of these contributions represented far more than material aid; they were reminders that this family was not alone.

Josué's story inspired an even greater dream. With the support of the Committee for the Blind and Deaf of Guatemala, classes will begin on February 15 in new facilities built by Kathleen Price and **Mission of Love**. This space was created with care and purpose for individuals who are visually impaired, focusing on independence, daily life skills, and tools for a dignified future.

Today, Josué no longer walks alone. His story stands as proof that solidarity transforms lives. What **Mission of Love** does is priceless. Every project, every visit, every act of kindness restores hope to people who have endured years of physical and emotional hardship.

None of this would be possible without the tireless commitment of Kathleen Price, a true angel to hundreds of families around the world. Thanks to people like her, and to those who choose to support this mission through donations, darkness does not have the final word.

You can be part of this story.

Every donation allows more families like Josué's to receive support, dignity, and hope.

**With appreciation,
Jhonatan Garcia**

See Picture Below.







Vibrant Selfless
Charitable Thanks
Loving Friendly FUN
Volunteers Caring

