



▲ This painting was painted by New Hope Academy students during the Banquet last March and is titled, *Jesus Eats with Everyone*.



How It Started



How It's Going

Aracely Turcios had just come home from second grade at New Hope Academy, and her mother asked her, “¿Tuviste un buen día?” Aracely thought for a moment and started explaining that in Devotions Mr. Tutler (Head of School at the time) had asked the students to imagine themselves standing in front of God making a fist. If they made that fist, then yes, they would be able to hold on tight to the things they were clutching to themselves; however, God would not be able to fill up their hands with all of things that he had in mind. If, on the other hand, they would make the choice to open their hands toward God, then God would not only be able to fill their hands with all of his good things, but he would also fill their hands to overflowing so that they would be able to be a blessing to the people around them.

Aracely’s mother, Yessenia, said that this moment in which her seven-year-old daughter was teaching her about God’s heart for generosity was the turning point for her. Yessenia had been raised in an orphanage in Honduras after her father had become abusive enough that her mother had to flee the country. After marrying Aracely’s father, Adin, they moved to Tennessee following Aracely’s first birthday, but they had nothing when they arrived. They had almost no money, no car, and spoke no English. Who could blame her for clutching anything that she had tightly in her fist?

That’s when God brought them to the New Hope community. Aracely was the first student at New Hope whose parents were both Latino, but she recalls being loved and accepted right away. “We were aware that we all came from different backgrounds – we had eyes! – but it wasn’t something that divided us.” She said that, “I always felt safe at New Hope. Because we were all different, nobody was. It wasn’t bad to be different.” The community also rallied around them when Yessenia experienced a challenging medical situation, and even made sure that Aracely had presents at Christmas when a

project at Adin's business went poorly around the holidays. All of this love started to have an effect. Yessenia said, "Because of my past, my heart was broken when I came to New Hope. I was not a Christian. But when they loved my daughters, they taught me how to love." Soon after, Yessenia gave her life to Christ.

Aracely graduated from New Hope in 2010, went on to graduate from Battle Ground Academy in 2016, and in 2020 she became the first person in her family to graduate from college. But she wasn't done there. She is now Dr. Aracely Turcios after graduating from Belmont with her doctorate in physical therapy. She is currently working at Riley Children's Hospital in Indianapolis as a pediatric physical therapist for children with neurological conditions and birth disorders. She said that she always wants to work with kids and looks forward to doing some of her work pro bono as a way to serve the community around her.

In addition to their two daughters flourishing (Abigail '18 will graduate from Independence HS this year), God has blessed Adin's business (Turcios Masonry) as well. They had given generously as Partners in Hope monthly donors since 2010, but at last year's Banquet, this family that had come to America with nothing and *received* a scholarship to attend New Hope began to *give* a full scholarship so that another child might receive what their girls received.

After holding a closed fist toward God for so long, God has certainly been filling up the open hands of the Turcios family, and he is certainly overflowing their blessing into the lives of the students at New Hope, the patients at Riley Children's Hospital, and so many more. "I didn't have much love because I hadn't been shown much love. New Hope taught me how to love." And now, Yessenia said, her life is guided by the words of Daniel 4:2, "It is my pleasure to tell you about the miraculous signs and wonders that the Most High God has performed for me."

In this season of generosity, we hope that the Turcios family's story is a blessing and an inspiration to all of us to open our hands toward God. We pray that he will fill us up with every good thing and that we would pass along those blessings to the people around us. Specifically, the family requested that we include here the last part of Matthew 10:8 – "Give as freely as you have received!" So we hope that you will consider New Hope Academy, as we need to raise \$1,400,000 this school year in order to provide scholarships for about 100 students just like Aracely – students for whom God has great plans. But those students need the Body of Christ to come alongside them to provide the education and support they need in their most formative years. **Would you prayerfully consider joining with the Turcios family in becoming a Partners in Hope monthly donor, a Century Society scholarship donor, or making any other sacrificial gift today to New Hope Academy so that we can continue providing a life-changing education to our students? Will you join us in opening our hands to what God has in store?**



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You can help us by making a gift of any amount, but here is some guidance as you consider the impact you could make:

\$80
One Day Scholarship

\$400
One Week Scholarship

\$1,400
One Month Scholarship

\$7,000
Half Year Scholarship

\$14,000
Full Year Scholarship

It is not too late to make a pledge or gift to the Growing Forward Campaign. Please visit www.nhafranklin.org/donate/growing-forward-campaign.cfm to make a pledge or gift online or reach out to Parker Page at ppage@nhafranklin.org.

Donate to the New Hope Academy Scholarship Fund



Donate to the Growing Forward Campaign



We deeply appreciate you and your prayerfully considered generosity to the students of New Hope Academy. We have enclosed an envelope with a gift form for your use, or you can donate online at www.nhafranklin.org/donate. We are also available to discuss gifts of stock. Please contact Parker Page at ppage@nhafranklin.org.