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CWRUPDATE

FALL 2016

Finding Courage in Mexico

Alma had been married for twenty years when she began to suspect that her husband was being unfaithful. When the evidence of his unfaithfulness was beyond doubt, she found the courage to confront him. He explained everything away and denied any unfaithfulness. He became very angry toward her, their two teenaged children, their friends, and the whole world. For two years, Alma and her children endured his economic, verbal, psychological, and physical abuse. All the while she hoped that things would change so that her marriage and family could be saved.

Marriage counseling was helpful, but Alma's husband soon made it clear that he wasn't interested in making the relationship work. Alma was concerned for the well-being of her children and herself. She again found courage, this time to face the painful divorce proceedings, the sharp criticism from family and friends for not putting up with the abusive marriage, and the judgmental comments about her being a "divorcee."

Several years later Alma was part of a group of women who attended a



"Mending the Soul" conference in Mexico City. She was deeply moved by the stories she heard of many abuse survivors who were now being transformed by God's redemptive healing. God gently nudged her to share what she learned at the conference, to share her own story, and to minister to others. She became a founding member of MAEM (Ministry to the Abused and Exploited in Mexico), a ministry partner of Covenant World Relief, and is currently the treasurer. God has used Alma's story of redemptive healing. Her loving, nonjudgmental listening, and the peace she conveys motivates children, adolescents, women, and married couples to find the courage to begin their own process of healing.

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CWR YEAR IN REVIEW

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