

## WEEK 2: GUATEMALA

### DIGNITY OF WORK AND THE RIGHTS OF WORKERS

Jesus spent years working as a carpenter. Work is important to help people fulfill their potential. And everyone must receive a fair wage to provide for themselves and their families.

#### STORY OF HOPE

In the village of Xequemeyá, Guatemala, malnutrition is high, which is especially dangerous for children. The community also struggles with water scarcity, poor education, poverty and a changing climate. But Raúl and Lilian Chanchavac believe all this can be overcome.

They started growing tomatoes, but plant diseases and other problems destroyed their crops. They pushed onward.

Lilian heard about Catholic Relief Services' SEGAMIL program and how they could receive agriculture training and nutrition education for their children. They learned to manage and care for their farm. Raúl and Lilian added onions, chili peppers and oranges to their crops.

They then entered CRS' Nuestra Cosecha program that helped them register with the government to begin selling their produce to local schools. Soon, they hired family and community members to harvest and pack the food. Today, they are proud to be able to help others in their community—especially children.



Photo by Erick Josue Hernandez for CRS

justice. The national symbol is in the center of the flag and includes the image of the national bird called “Quetzal,” which is also the name of Guatemala’s currency.

- CRS has been providing humanitarian assistance in Guatemala since 1963, supporting food security, nutrition, health, agriculture, education, disaster risk reduction and emergency response programs.

#### FACTS TO CONSIDER:

- The official language of Guatemala is Spanish, although it has 24 indigenous languages, including Nahuatl. The name Guatemala means “land of many trees” in Nahuatl. The country, slightly smaller than Pennsylvania, is in Central America and shares a border with Mexico, El Salvador, Honduras and Belize.
- The Guatemalan flag has three stripes: the two blue ones represent the Pacific Ocean to the west and the Caribbean Sea to the east. The white stripe in the middle represents the nation, peace, faith and



For downloadable photos, visit [crsricebowl.org/photos](https://crsricebowl.org/photos) and watch the video from Week 2 at [crsricebowl.org/stories](https://crsricebowl.org/stories).

# DIGNITY OF WORK AND THE RIGHTS OF WORKERS

45 MINUTES

## OBJECTIVE

Through the story of Raúl and Lilian in Guatemala, students will explore the Catholic social teaching principle of The Dignity of Work and the Rights of Workers. They'll learn how they can uphold the dignity of others.

## MATERIALS

- Week 2 story and video—available at [crsricebowl.org/stories](https://crsricebowl.org/stories).
- Week 2 Activity Sheet: Grades 1-3.
- Colored pencils, glue and scissors.

## DISCUSSION (15 MINUTES)

1. Locate Guatemala on the map.
2. Read the story from Week 2. Use the video to supplement the story.
3. Reflect:
  - What did you find interesting in the story?
  - Raúl and Lilian live in Xequemeyá with their two children. What are some of the challenges that their community face?
  - Why did Raúl and Lilian think it was important to participate in CRS' projects?

## ACTIVITY (25 MINUTES)

1. Explain the Catholic social teaching principle of The Dignity of Work and the Rights of Workers. Discuss how Jesus spent years working as a carpenter. Work allows people to use their God-given talents. People must be paid a fair wage for the work they do, so they can provide for themselves and their families.
2. Have students complete the Week 2 Activity Sheet: Grades 1-3.
3. If time permits, ask students if they know other fruits or vegetables that grow on vines or under the ground.

## CLOSING PRAYER (5 MINUTES)

*Compassionate God,*

*We pray that each person discovers their passion and true calling.*

*May all people be able to pursue their dreams, have safe work and be paid fairly.*

*Amen*

## AT HOME

1. Share your activity sheet with your family.
2. As a family, read and discuss the daily reflection in your **CRS Rice Bowl Lenten Calendar**.

## IF YOU ONLY HAVE

**10**  
MINUTES

1. Read the story from Week 2. Use the video to supplement the story.
2. Lead Discussion step 3.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_



**WEEK 2**  
Dignity of Work and the Rights of Workers

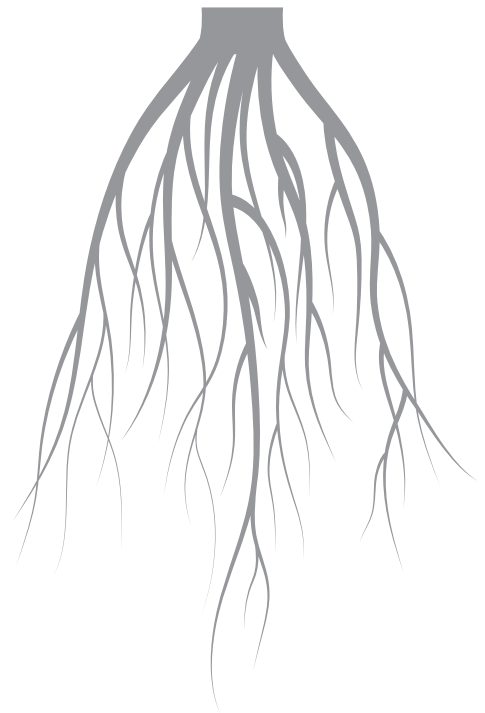
Does it grow on a tree, a vine or under ground? Color the pictures of each fruit or vegetable. Then cut out the pictures and paste them where they grow.



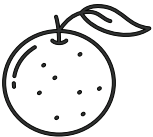

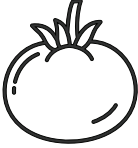



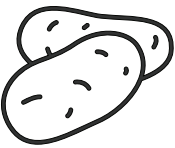
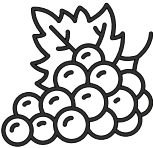
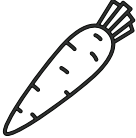
**Tree**



**Vine**



**Roots**

ORANGE 	ONION 	TOMATO 	LEMON 	RADISH 
BANANA 	POTATO 	GRAPES 	CARROT 	PUMPKIN 