

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 and watch the video from Week 2 at 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.
- One copy of Week 2 Activity Sheet: Grades 4-6 for the teacher.
- A piece of paper and a pencil for each student.

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. Share how work is important to help people fulfill their potential, and that everyone must be paid fairly to provide for themselves and their families.
2. Follow the instructions on Week 2 Activity Sheet: Grades 4-6.

CLOSING PRAYER (5 MINUTES)

Loving God,

We ask that you be with all those who are searching for work and a better future.

May they find dignified work, and may we always support the dignity of all workers.

Amen

AT HOME

1. As a family, read and discuss the daily reflection in your **CRS Rice Bowl Lenten Calendar**.
2. Follow the instructions on the activity sheet to do the activity together as a family.

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

1. On the board, write the word bank below.
2. Ask students to draw a table with three columns and four rows on a piece of paper.
3. Then have them create their own bingo card by writing one word in each cell.
4. Let's play! Ask the students the questions below. If they have the answer on their card, they can cross it off.

The winner is the person who has crossed off three boxes in a row.

Words:

Lilian	Two	Agriculture	Peace	Nahuatl
Central America	Tomatoes	Community members	Spanish	
5 a.m.	Schools	Blue and white	Quetzal	

Questions:

- What is the name of Raúl's wife? Lilian.
- In which region of our continent is Guatemala located? Central America.
- What time do Raúl and Lilian start their day? 5 a.m.
- How many children do Raúl and Lilian have? Two.
- What was Raúl and Lilian's first crop? Tomatoes.
- To whom do Raúl and Lilian sell their vegetables? Schools.
- What type of training did Raúl and Lilian receive at the SEGAMIL program? Agriculture.
- Who did Raúl and Lilian hire to harvest and pack the food? Community members.
- What are the two background colors of the Guatemalan flag? Blue and white.
- What does the white color on the Guatemalan flag represent? Peace.
- What is the official language of Guatemala? Spanish.
- What is the name of Guatemala's national bird and of its currency? Quetzal.
- In what indigenous language does Guatemala mean "land of many trees"? Nahuatl.