



El Ojoche Community, Nicaragua

ORALITY TRAINING INSTILLS CONFIDENCE

Basilia Escalante is a 58-year-old housewife, mother to five, and local pastor's wife. She is a devoted mother and spent much of her life raising her children, but as they got older, she found herself with more free time. So, she decided to use her pottery skills to make crafts and clay ornaments to raise money for her church and family. When Living Water Nicaragua partnered with her husband to spread the gospel in their region, Basilia was excited but didn't think she had the capacity to participate herself.

She said, "When we were invited to the community mobilization and orality training, I told my husband, 'I can't go! I'm the oldest in the church. There are other, younger people who have the capacity to memorize these stories from the Bible. I'm too old! But my husband encouraged me. I said to myself, 'I am going to go, and God will know what he is going to do with me.'"

At the end of the workshops, Basilia agreed to share her newfound orality skills with the community. When she entered the church, she was surprised to find many people gathered to hear her speak. She asked the Lord to calm her nerves and immediately felt she had "overcome her previous bondage." Before the orality training, Basilia never imagined she would have the courage to share the gospel with so many people, but now she felt equipped and confident in her abilities and the Lord's providence.

Now, every Tuesday, Basilia shares the gospel with her neighbors. She said, "I overcame such fear and doubt. I no longer have those feelings, and I will never forget it. I feel like I was born again!" Through safe water and the *living water*, people can walk in freedom, knowing both their physical and spiritual needs are cared for.



Basilia [left] shares her story with a Living Water staff member.



Basilia glazes a pieces of pottery she will sell to raise money for her church.