Thirteen-year-old José lives with his nine family members in a low-income housing project in Nicaragua. When the family’s old neighborhood flooded, they had no choice but to move to this housing development.

The young teen’s parents have always worked hard to provide for the large family by making and selling tortillas. “My childhood was very limited and scarce, but we have strived to live happily as a family,” he says.

Since his parents and two older siblings have always worked, José has cared for his younger siblings. He explains, “To this day, I continue to take care of and protect them from those who want to hurt them. They are now 11, 5, and 3 years old.”

José has been taking his younger siblings to church with him since he was little. At the young age of five, he accepted Christ as his Savior. When he was invited to a Bible League Project Philip Bible study, José saw his faith grow deeper.

He has been sharing what he is learning with his brothers. He says, “What has impacted my life the most is that through these books, I know God, I know His commandments.” While studying God’s Word, José realized he needed to improve his relationship with his parents. “I blamed them for our poverty, but now I am aware of the tremendous effort they made to keep us going and bring us here,” he says. “I am more aware of my family’s needs.”

Questions:

How is José’s life different than yours?

Do you help your siblings learn about God?

How did the Bible change José’s life?