

## WOMEN'S EDUCATION

Women in much of Central America are often denied equality, educational opportunities, leadership roles, and physical safety. Domestic violence is a common challenge, and crimes against women are a significant problem. In Guatemala in 2008, 600 women were murdered-- only one of the murders was investigated by the police, and no one was arrested.

### Our Women's Program:

- promotes the dignity and self-esteem of women
- works to eliminate violence against women and children
- provides training enabling women to exercise leadership in the community



*"I was sad to have been born a woman because of the injustice and pain that society creates for women. As my parent's only daughter and with four brothers, I grew up hearing horrible things about girls and suffered unequal treatment from my parents, who gave priority to the boys. These experiences crushed my heart. One day I discovered that women, too, are on God's heart and that God provides tools and resources so that women hear and see God as well. One of those resources for me was Cedepca, which helped to affirm me and empower me as a woman. I was sick, invisible, without a name and embarrassed for being a woman, and this course has been a way for me to grow as a person, as a woman, and as a worthy, intelligent and autonomous human being."*  
Miriam Carrillo, Guatemala

**During 2010, 2,292 women and 123 men participated in the Women's program.**

### Courses:

- Healthy Relationships
- It's Marvelous to be a Woman
- Women's Theology
- Naming our Pain
- Alternatives to Violence
- Emotional Intelligence
- Gender Relationships in Church

### Workshops:

- The Broken Vows
- Walking Together
- Sexual and Reproductive Health
- Women's Rights

### Special Celebrations:

- World Day of Prayer
- Annual conference on theological-pastoral reflection
- International Day of Non-Violence Toward Women

### Publications:

- TEMAS (The bulletin of the Women's Program)

### Assistance:

- Pastoral counseling
- Psychological and legal counseling