



MATTOCKS FAMILY MISSIONS

A LOOK INTO OUR LIVES OVERSEAS

2021 Vol 4

THE WELLS DUG BEFORE US

"Don't try to reinvent the wheel. Just learn from the guys who have already done it well. You need a mentor, a seasoned coach who is willing to share his wisdom and experience with you. Ask someone who has already been successful to guide you."

- George Foreman

We grow in life because we learn from those that have gone before us. We learn how not to do certain things because others have tried and it didn't work. Hopefully we have been taking notes. Learning from those that have tried and it didn't work, will help us as we journey through life.

"Ask the former generations and find out what their fathers learned, for we were born only yesterday and we know so little." Job 8:8-9

Learning from those that have gone before us. During our training and introduction to missions, we had one missionary that spoke about "wells that have been dug before us". During our journey in missions, there have been other missionaries that have

been doing missions for a long time. We had a chance to have a LAC Andean Retreat (Colombia, Bolivia, Ecuador, Peru and Venezuela) where for a week we had time to speak to those who have gone before. That time of asking questions was priceless.

Colombia had thoughts of slowing travel and maybe persuading the minds of people to limit travel. They allowed the local governments to release restrictions that suit their towns and surrounding areas.

Right before Semana Santa (Easter), they added no movement days. Every Sunday, Wednesday and Friday there was to be no one out. Then the day after Easter, they made new changes.

It has been frustrating. Heather and I share the same number on our "Cedula". All shopping and bill paying had to be done on the same day, and planning ahead isn't an option. During this time we also celebrated TaraBeth's birthday (who turned 8 on April 8th). There is a great story there on living overseas, for another time. Thankfully there is Rappi, a delivery service.

We don't know what will happen as a new wave of the virus circulates, but we know everything will be all right!

JOB 8:8-9

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Always Learning

¡DÍA DE LA AMISTAD!

In Colombia they celebrate friendships! We have been so blessed with these amazing friends! They are so patient with us when we speak Spanish to with them. They correct us when we pronounce things wrong and they help with learning the different conjugations and how to use them. They have been especially helpful with the local sayings that don't translate well.

We celebrated Valentines Day (Friendship and love) by picking names and then got little gifts to give to them. The best part is when you go to give your gift to them, you don't just give it to them. You describe the person that you picked and the others guess the person. That was just great to see all of us describe each other! All uplifting even the young ones described the person they got!

These three families have been amazing, encouraging , uplifting and an answer to prayers! We have been blessed to have them as our friends and continue to learn the language and the cultural as we spend time with them.