



LOVING THE UNLOVED IN COLOMBIA

What we have been up to...

*Kings Castle
6th World Missions Congress
North District Women's
Conference
Food Distributions
School Year Ending
ChildHope Christmas*



Serve One Another

1 Peter 4:10

When you use your gifts to serve the community and those around you, you never really know how you will impact those around. You serve them when you place them ahead of you and your needs. you can serve by taking the time to help them with a task or just to sit and have a "Cafecito". Sometimes serving is as simple as the other person knowing someone is listening. When you are present in that moment serving in whatever way needed, you are being the love of Jesus in a tangible way. Seeds are being planted. They face life relieved there is someone there that is in the moment their to be with them there! More importantly encouraging them that there is a God who wants show/move/answer/speak into their lives! We learned to just be present and allow the Holy Spirit to lead and guide every word.

These past 2 years serving in Colombia has taught us many things and opened our eyes to how we have done ministry and life. One thing we have learned (especially Isaiah) is to not to be so "Time orientated", keeping to tightly to a schedule! You might think, "but that's a good thing". It is a good thing, but living in a culture that isn't all about punctuality, and when given a time to meet or schedule a time , its more of a time slot not the exact minute. We are learning its all about people and conversations are bound by schedules Life happens around us all the time and some times it out of our hands and we can't control what happens, but to just adjust and be open you might be late! Isaiah struggles with that! He is an on time or early person to meeting and appointments! We have learned that you need to focus not on the time scheduled but the time spent with them!

November & December

END OF THE YEAR

There has always been a feeling that we are closing out another year when November and December come. Here that is not the case. Fall comes, days are cooler, Thanksgiving is celebrated with family and "winter wonderland snow" begins! Thanksgiving or "Dia de Accion de Gracias" isn't a holiday that is celebrated in Colombia. However we have enjoyed sharing this day with our friends. Being here away from our biological families but being surrounded with family God placed in our lives, makes us a bit more thankful. Here they decorate for Navidad (Christmas) beginning in November, and that is never too early! Living in a beautiful place like Santa Marta where the weather is great (HOT) and not having the seasonal winter snow storms, your perspective changes when November and December happens. You see things differently. Christ is always the reason for the season and focus, but it's not just this time of year. It's every day of the year! We have seen God move so mightily in these past months in services, families being restored, marriages healed, God answering prayers. We have been so encouraged not to have the mentality of closing out the year, but to continue the year! We are excited to see this new year start off in an exciting way!



*"WITHOUT CHRIST THERE WOULD BE
NO CHRISTMAS AND WITHOUT CHRIST
THERE CAN BE NO FULNESS OF JOY"*

-EZRA BENSON

We have an amazing Colombian Field Fellowship! (This is all the missionaries that have answered the call to come and serve here in Colombia.) We don't get to always all be together, but during Thanksgiving it has always been a time to gather and have a dinner! Well this year, We were asked to host the thanksgiving retreat in Santa Marta! We were honored to host and have our fellow missionaries come to Santa Marta! We had the joy to find a hotel to host us all also to be able to have a room to hold meetings and services. Then the fun part was sitting with a local chef and try to explain Thanksgiving dinner! That was a great experience, not just to explain it but to see the excitement of the chef who got to research and try for the first time preparing a meal that isn't common to this area! To explain gravy to them was comical. Gravy translates to a salsa, but it is more than a salsa. But learning to find the words to translate to have a better understanding of what gravy is was an experience! The Chef delivered a great thanksgiving dinner!

More Importantly was this was the first time our MKs (Missionary Kids) got to meet with the other MKs in the Colombian field. It was amazing to see how all of them just came together and it was like they had been friends for years! It was an answer to pray! Our kids were the only MKs in Colombia last year due to the other families itineration schedule.



Giving the Best Gift

Over the years, we have all been given some amazing gifts. Take a moment to think about the one gift that still to this day stands out in your life. There may have been many gift that have been given to you . I know, I have received many amazing gifts from some amazing people. Some gifts were given by complete strangers and those gifts are not a material gift but a gift of words or a gifts of actions and serving. These gifts are the ones that keep giving.

We have been given the opportunity every day to give the gift, that gift is a relationship with Jesus Christ. That is the truly the best gift! This gift will never leave you with out.

These past few months we have been apart of different outreach groups, in the church and the district, to be able to go out and share this amazing gift with those around us. We have gone out into the streets, we have partnered with churches for their Christmas outreach and we have fed the homeless. Each one of the events have been a great opportunity for us to share the Gospel and to gift the gift of eternal life. Little kids all the way to the elderly had the chance to receive the Gift!



"I HAVE TRIED TO KEEP THINGS IN MY HANDS AND LOST THEM ALL, BUT WHAT I HAVE GIVEN INTO GOD'S HANDS I STILL POSSESS." MARTIN LUTHER.

One of the events that has made a huge impact was the last event of the year. The church we are apart of had an event to feed the homeless. I thought it would be driving and handing out food to those in the street. It was far from that. The church took an amazing approach and had a banquet set up. We had tables and chairs decorated for a feast. The tables were with red and white table clothes with a center piece. We had the people come and sit with a person from the church. They talked with them until the tables were full. Then we did skits and human videos to share the gift of the gospel with them. Then a pastor preached and prayed for them. We broke bread with them, had dessert the and then had clothing and gifts for the families. That night spoke volumes to my heart. As this event brought those that feel as outcast to the table. The church took Matthew 22:8-14, that the table is ready and to go out into the streets to invite those to the table. This brought so much emotions as there are so many people in this world that have the opportunity to come to the table and it's upon us to go and invite them to the table so that they could receive the most amazing Gift!!



WE ARE COMING HOME

Can you believe that its been 3 years since we first left for our first term on the missions field! This coming March of 2023 we will be heading home for our next itineration. We have had an amazing 3 years !

The first year was in Costa Rica learning Spanish ! It was a year of growth and stretching. Being in Costa Rica during Covid was an experience that will ever mark our lives. After a year of learning Spanish, we had to head back to the states for a while to get all of paperwork and wait for Colombia to open their borders. Now we are coming to the end our our 2 years here. It feels like we have lived here forever and at the same time that time has flown by.

We are super excited to see all of you and share what God has been doing and is doing here in Colombia. We are already booking services and would love to schedule to be with each of you!



I PRESS ON TOWARD THE GOAL FOR THE PRIZE OF THE UPWARD CALL OF GOD IN CHRIST JESUS.

PHILIPPIANS 3:14

The past two months have gone like a whirl wind. We had the privilege of attending the Castillo del Rey weekend. Isaiah was able to speak into the lives of leaders of Castillo del Rey (Kings Castle). He told them the importance of passing the flame, not the torch. Then we had a wonderful time of ministry praying over the leaders and next generation of Kings Castle. He was then able to speak to our local Castle team as we welcomed new members and closed out the year. Heather and Dakota have been ministering with our local Castle ministries. They have been doing outreaches in schools, as well as in the parks. Praying over kids at every event, that God would move in their lives. As we close out the year and celebrate Christmas we have had the honor of being able to pass out gifts for Christmas. Isaiah was able to visit with 2 of our ChildHope schools as they finished their school year and deliver gifts and food to the families. As a family we were able to go to our church plant and do the same, ministering to the families.



Ways to Pray

School: Starting a New School online for the 2022-23 year

Itineration: We will be coming home to start our Second Itineration to head back to Colombia in 2024.

Saying See you Later

New Opportunities:

Becoming the new Country Coordinators for ChildHope

Photo Dump:

