## CHRISTMAS WITH THE SLOTHS









## Christmas Time

This is the first of many Christmases overseas. Many things will be different from what we have been use to in the past. One difference is the weather here in Costa Rica has been amazing. NO SNOW HERE!!

We received two amazing gifts for Christmas! First Heather's parents were able to visit. It helped Christmas feel a bit more normal. The second gift was for us to have a once in a life time experience. We went to the Toucan Rescue Ranch! We got to see amazing animals from Costa Rica, one being perezosos (SLOTHS)!!!

It was a new experience celebrating Christmas in another country with a new culture and customs for Christmas but the true meaning remained the Savior of the World was born!!



## ONE DOWN 2 TO GO

So we just finished our first of 3 trimesters here in Costa Rica. It has been an amazing time but also a time of sadness and joy! Sadness because we had to say see you later to some amazing missionaries! They have graduated and are leaving for their countries God called them to. We will miss them as we grew close with each of them, but we are excited for them as they get to go start working in their countries!

We are also exited for the new missionaries that will be coming in to start their time studying and growing here at CINCEL. We are looking forward to learning and growing in the Spanish language. We are a step closer, and exited for the day we graduate and get to head to Colombia. Until then we move forward, "Poco a Poco."



## **WHAT DOES 2020 HOLD?**

Well 2019 was a big year! We went through many changes this past year: We found out we would be leaving for Language School, packing up 13 years as a family, packing in 21 suitcases, saying "See you later' to family and friends, 2 of our children flying for the first time and moving to live in Costa Rica for a year! Many amazing experiences in our new journey to the mission field!

So 2020, will have many changes also: Finish Language School, then move to Santa Marta, Colombia, start to build relationships with the church and people in Colombia and plant our roots for a very long and amazing journey in Missions!!! We all look forward for what God has in store for this upcoming year!!

Please continue to pray for us! We have a lot of Spanish still to learn. Although we are excited it does get overwhelming at times. Pray for direction, we have an opportunity to work in children's ministry at the church we attend. Pray that as we finish out this Holiday season and then move on to birthdays, we would always continue to find joy and wonder where God as placed us now, and not dwell on the things we miss!! Pray for the kids, schooling for them has been the hardest adjustment. We still need wisdom and discernment daily.











They finished their first half of the new school year. This is a different type of schooling and the kids have done great adjusting to the online school and they love the fact that they get to use their new computers for class. They have become "experts" with their Chromebooks. They are sad because they had to say good bye to 6 of their friends. Things will be a little different with their class size being smaller. They will get to make 2 new friends as we have a new family coming in for the new semester! That means new experiences and new memories to make with other MK's





