Goodbye or See you Later







Pictures of our day up in Nono as a family and with Caroline after the national strikes were over and being stuck inside. So good for the soul to be out in nature.

Praises:

- As always there are so many praises and all glory is to our Lord Jesus Christ! He is amazing!
- This month hits the 4 year mark of our being on the mission field.
- The national strikes are suspended for 90 days and life is back to normal for now.
- The families of the foundation made it safely through the strikes as the center was in the heart of the protests.
- Our volunteer Caroline was able to leave on time and arrived home safely. Thank you for your time here, Caroline!
- Wallhighway Baptist Church spent 9 days with us. What a joy to have had them! They are back safely, also.
- Our family has been finding ways to connect and have down time in the midst of the hussle.
- Summer activiites with the kids has been fun and they are growing in their faith, stature and knowledge.
- The Lord is always faithful!!!!

Prayer Requests:

- Two of our families from the foundation are in the process of walking to the United States. Please pray for them.
- We have 7 new kids in the foundation. Pray for their transstion. (ours, too)
- Our tax ID number comes in God's timing. I would love to see it happen soon but we're trusting Him.
- We have a staff retreat this month. Pray we grow as team together.
- School starts in a month. Pray as we get 24 kids and 4 adults ready for school.
- Samantha starts high school through Liberty Online this month. Pray for her focus and our juggling.
- Protection for our staff, families and our family as crime is at a high.
- Wisdom on how to do each day. For we know this is only through the power of the Holy Spirit.



Our first couple of days in Costa Rica studying Spanish four years ago. Ashton was with us.

At the end of this month four years ago, we left the United States on a full time basis. It is really hard to believe it has been four years already; and, **really** hard to believe it has only been four years. I can't even comprehend all that the Lord has done in four short years. Thank you Lord for all the people, opportunities, encouragements, heart aches and love that has come through our lives. What an incredible journey following Him! Thank you for all those who have been with us all the way through and those that are new to the journey with us. I love the family of God!

In Missionary Training school (MTI), we learned many things that has been so beneficial for us. The one thing that I have been thinking about lately that they told us would happen is all the goodbyes. A missionary kid has more goodbyes in their 18 years than most people have in their lifetime. We have definetly expereniced this and I am thankful for the training to make sure we recognize it and do it the best that we can. Just in the last 7 weeks, we have said see you later to our kids/parents and friends in the States (hopefully see them in a year), a 2 week volunteer, a team of nine from the States, 4 families from the center, missionary friends from here that are returning to the States on a full time basis. Some of them will end up being goodbyes and others see you laters. I am so thankful for all the people the Lord brings through our lives. Thank you MTI for preparing us for this.

Our staff is phenomenal! One of the things I think we do best as a team is to fall in love with the kids. Always, we strive to share and grow the kids in Christ and loving them is one way we go about doing that. It is always hard to have kids leave the center especially when you know the situation that they are going into is dangerous. We have had one little girl that was taken by her mom to another city to provide for her family. Two of the kids in this picture are in the process of walking to the US with their parents and another family from the center. This was a tearful goodbye as we pray for their safety. May they grow in their faith in Jesus where ever life takes them.



The summer break from school has brought a different kind of schedule. The kids are going to the park twice a week and a movie in the center once a week. We also try to do something different once a week. Some of those different things has involved going through the historic part of town learning about Quito and going to an indoor park/ convention center. A friend of ours has been coming and doing different types of crafts with them. The kids are looking forward to going to a resturant as we have been working on teaching table ettiquiette. The highlight of the summer was definitely the water park. Wallhighway Baptist Church spent nine days with us and one of the outings we did together is an adventure to a water park about a hour and 20 minutes from the center. We only took the kids ages seven and older and that gave us a 1:1 ratio of adults to kids. Only a couple of kids could somewhat swim. For several of the kids, they had never put their heads underwater. It was a super fun and exciting time with them.



All of us finishing the day at the water park.



Kids and staff enjoying the park.



Walking through the historical center.

Our time with Wallhighway was a huge blessing! Not only did the kids enjoy having different activities and people, so did our staff and us. The team did Bible lessons and skits, science experiments, crafts and games. They also just hung out with the kids and played. It was a special time. We also had the opportunity to return to the mountains where we passed out food in the height of the pandamic. It was wonderful to see some people again and hear some of their stories. Thank you Wallhighway for the food for the mountain families and being a part of that. I loved our evening devotional and worship time with the team. I want to personally say thank you to Jose, Caleb, Alan, Timmy, Gracie, Sarah, Hal, Carol and Tiffany for reminding me that the Lord is in the everyday details of our lives and that it is really pretty specatualar. The nine of you made more of an impact than you know. Thank you!



Time up in the mountains with the police delivering food.



Our see you laters and thank yous. Till next time Wallhighway.

The scripture that comes to mind as I write these things is:

"let us draw near to God with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful. And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds. Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing but let us encourage one another — and all the more as you see the Day approaching." Hebrews 10:22-25

Many blessings, Dan, Gina and Samantha