



# Step report

## Argentina & Bolivia

### Report #4

Welcome to our 4th Step report!

This week has been another busy one, but we have had a whole load of fun and reasons to praise the Lord. The church (Asamblea de Dios) has been so supportive and welcoming to us all throughout our time here. People have been willing to meet up and spend time with us, despite the language barrier, and us being from a different culture. They have been so patient and kind towards us and it was been a privilege being able to serve at the Sunday services as well: sharing testimonies, and leading a worship song each week.



### A Bible verse that has encouraged us this week:

**Millie** - "Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray. Is anyone cheerful? Let him sing praise." James 5:13

**Amelia** - "Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance." James 1:2-3

**Reuben** - "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go." Joshua 1:9

**Calum** - "Seek the Lord and his strength; seek his presence continually! Remember the wondrous works that he has done, his miracles and the judgments he uttered," 1 Chronicles 16:11-12

**Anna** - "...whatever you do, do all to the glory of God." - 1 Corinthians 10:31

**Oscar** - "Draw near to God and He will draw near to you" - James 4:8

**Ben** - "A land that the Lord your God cares for. The eyes of the Lord your God are always upon it, from the beginning of the year to the end of the year" - Deuteronomy 11:12

## Highlights of the week

Last Sunday (12th April) we enjoyed a hike at Aguaray (20 minutes out of Tartagal). We enjoyed being out of the town and seeing some beautiful green scenery. (We didn't enjoy the mosquitos quite as much!!)

This week we started attending an English Institute. They offer a range of classes for different ages, and it was been a pleasure helping out at some of their evening classes. They have loved chatting to us and getting to know us; they even brought in some traditional Argentinian food for us to try! We told them a little bit about why we are here in Tartagal - our mission work - and we hope that seeds may be planted and that we'd be good ambassadors of Christ. We are sad that we hadn't been informed of the Institute earlier in our time here, but we have treasured every moment that we've spent with the lovely children there.



with the "boss"



smiles at the construction site



church service

On Friday (17th April) in the evening we attended the 18th birthday party of our friend Santi from church. We had a lovely time with lots of the youth, sharing food and singing worship.

On Saturday (18th April) it was our second last Escuela Biblia (kids club at the church). It has been such a blessing being able to be involved with the children's ministry in the church, and share some precious time learning more about each other, but ultimately helping them learn more about the word of God.

On Saturday evening, it was our last time being at the church's young adults group. We had a wonderful time with them playing games, singing worship, reflecting on God's word, and chatting. We were told that the attendance will probably drop once we leave, which is difficult to hear, but we hope that we've been able to make an impact, however small.



### Construction project:

The construction project has continued to progress this week as we have all been working hard. The weather has been cooler this past week which we have been appreciating! The beams for the roof are almost all finished and up now, ready for the roofers to come on Friday. Daniel the builder, and all the other volunteers from the church that work with us have been so patient with us when we don't understand what we're meant to be doing, or when we can't do certain tasks! They have been so friendly and generous in sharing time, stories, food (and mate) with us, which has made it a pleasure to work with them.



## Something that exceeded our expectations / is different to what we had imagined:

- "The church services has definitely exceeded my expectations, I knew it would be very difficult to understand in another language but with help from Oscar & Calum, and reading the Bible along in English has helped so much. The worship here is also upbeat and so important to them which I love and that is different to what I had imagined coming from a more traditional church."
- "When I heard how long the church services last, I was not looking forward to them because I thought I'd just be sitting there not understanding anything, but as time has gone on I've been able to understand large portions of the services and follow along."
- "Something that is very different to what we're used to, and something that I've had to get used to, is how open and honest Argentinians are about everything. They ask very personal questions sometimes and make comments that would not be made in our culture back home"
- "I thought the English Institute would be boring and that we'd just be sitting in the class, but it has exceeded my expectations and has been very fun and engaging. It's been amazing to be a part of the kids journey's in learning such a highly valued skill like speaking English especially as it is not common to have English speakers around."
- "I didn't think we would have been able to build relationships with people as easily as we have considering the language barrier. People have been so patient and understanding with us not speaking Spanish."

# Prayer and praise points

- Praise God again for the relationships we have made within the church, for example being invited to Santi's birthday party, which really made us feel really included within the church.
- Praise that our Spanish is improving every day and we can't wait to see how God will use this in the future.
- Praise for English Institute and how welcoming they have been.
- Prayer for wisdom on how we can use last bit of project fund
- Prayer for a good refresh over our holiday week before we move onto our next project
- Prayer for the churches here that they will keep being rooted in Christ and His Word
- Praise God for the connections that we've made with the youth of the community and Danny's community (Coronillo) too and the impact that we've had on them and they've had on us.
- Prayer for continuing on with strength in the last few days, and as we get ready to say hard goodbyes.
- Praise God for how well the youth group went last week, the enthusiasm and energy they had, and prayer that the momentum would continue even after we leave.
- Praise for all the fun we've had throughout our time here and all the amazing opportunities we've had to grow in our faith and learn more about God's Word.



Friendships made



Birthday celebrations!



At the Institute

## Wholehearted mission

Latin Link's verse of the year is from Colossians 3:23, **"Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord..."** Our 'whatever' can only happen because of your support. Please consider donating to help keep us serving: [www.latinlink.org.uk/donate](http://www.latinlink.org.uk/donate)

