



April 2017

Queridos amigos,

I hope that it has been a joyful time over Easter thinking more about the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus - what an amazing thing to know He reigns now and forever!

English Teaching at Santiago Evangelista Primary School

I'm now in my second month of helping at the primary school and, although it was quite a difficult start in some ways, I feel a lot more settled in the role now, which I'm thankful for. The work consists of holding conversation classes with all of the high school English groups, assisting in primary school art, technology and IT (no comments please!), and then helping with two classes of Christian Education with Year 7s and 8s.

The students are a great bunch and we've had some fun getting to know each other, as well as playing rather a lot of pronunciation Bingo! Last week, there was an Easter service with the whole school and I was really impressed with the clarity in the way the gospel was spoken about. The students were challenged to personally consider the impact of Jesus' death on their own relationship with him. It's great that such a good number of the teachers seem to be real believers, and to see a desire to talk about Jesus as their Saviour. I've also been encouraged to go along to an after-school prayer group that runs each week.



Reading the Bible one-on-one

Thank you for your prayers regarding the bible-reading with my non-Christian friend from Ecela Language School. The Lord amazingly made it possible for us to read two of the Word One-to-One studies on John together, and we had some long chats about her questions. It was just wonderful the way this opportunity opened up to share the gospel clearly - and not just through debate, but reading the Bible. The girl has actually moved a bit further south in Chile now, but I am hoping to be able to visit her over a weekend soon. I'd love you to keep praying that the Lord would guide me in this friendship so that I might be an example of love, and that he would soften her heart.

It's been great to be meeting weekly with a Christian girl from Santiago Evangelista to read Mark. I've really enjoyed getting to know her through these times, as well as the couple of days we've walked home together after school. It's good to be relying on the Lord to do the work in her heart, remembering that at the end of the day - especially with the challenge of Spanish - it is his word that can convict and speak to her.

Cristo Redentor Church

Church has continued to be a lovely place to be, and we have been looking at Exodus. Spanish is still a challenge at church, and I don't feel that I have made any close friends there as Spanish is quite a hindrance in this. But it has been great over the last few weeks to feel that I can understand the majority of what is said now, which is a real answer to prayer.

It's been encouraging for me (and for Crosslinks Mission Partners Luke and Mary Foster too) to have a consistent group of five or so people committed to coming to our flat each Thursday night; this has really helped us to get to know one another better. I've also joined a group from church working through the Moore Theological College Doctrine course and I am really enjoying the reading and then discussion when we meet every fortnight.



This past week, a few of us went to support one of the girls from bible study who was singing in a choir performing Bach's St John Passion and it was good fun - especially hearing the work right before Good Friday! I've also got to know one of the church families a little better through helping their daughter with English once a week.

Exploring Chile and further afield

There have been some rather lovely weekend trips since the last time I wrote, which do merit a little mention! In the middle of March, four of us from Ecela Language School embarked on a nine-hour bus journey through the Andes and ended up in Mendoza in Argentina, which was beautiful. It's also been fun to do things with Beatrice Born and Joe Stephenson (both of whom are linked to Crosslinks) - we spent a couple of days at the coast getting sunburnt on the beach and eating a considerable amount of "choripan" (a heavenly union of toasted bread rolls, chorizo and mayo). I'm really grateful for these times to relax and get to explore a bit with such sterling company!



Looking ahead to the next month or so, I'd appreciate prayer for the following:

Santiago Evangelista School - for relationships to grow and opportunities to speak about the Lord both with students and staff, to link up with other Christians and to have conversations with those who don't believe.

Bible-reading with the girl from Santiago Evangelista - that the Lord would enable her to seek him wholeheartedly, despite unhelpful pressures at school.

My relationship with the Lord - that the Lord would help me to look to Him each day for strength and joy, and to work for him and not for people.

Thank you so much for praying for me - much love,

Jemimah

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