

SERVING IN CHILE

MATIAS & KRISTEN

Ladino

JANUARY 2023

Greetings from Chile! We just got back and settled in. Matias left one week earlier to get everything ready, and Kristen and the girls followed the first week in January. We thank Jesus that while it was extremely difficult to be so far away and trust others to care for the ministry, the Lord was gracious and kept Chango and the property safe in our absence. We made the decision to come back a few weeks early when the second family to watch the property decided to stop coming. So, to those of you who we did not get a chance to see or to say goodbye to, we are genuinely sorry, and our hearts are sad, but God knows why.

Our last prayer letter was in October, and since then our schedule was pretty full of visiting churches and supporters. The Lord opened doors for us to visit several new Spanish-speaking churches. At one church in Fort Wayne, Indiana, Matias preached a Sunday morning service, and three guys came in who were drunk. They were very vocal and participatory throughout the entire sermon (Kristen didn't realize they were drunk and kept thinking, "Wow, those people really love Jesus", haha) and at the end, Matias gave a salvation invitation, and all three accepted Christ as Savior! At another church in southern Indiana, Matias was able to share at a men's breakfast, at the teen's youth meeting and preach the Sunday morning service. There were several decisions for Christ during that weekend!



One special memory that we have is of some friends of ours who we literally just met. They are youth leaders at a church out in Fremont, Ohio. They asked us to come speak to the teens and talk about missions and give a gospel presentation. We had never been to their church and had no idea what to expect. When we walked in, they had prepared an entire Thanksgiving banquet and had us as the guests of honor. The



teens were extremely attentive as they listened to what God had laid on our hearts to share. What a blessing to be able to share God's goodness with future generations and how kind of our new friends to make us feel so welcome.

We could not possibly begin to share all God did or how He moved during this trip, but we have some very precious and special memories that we will treasure always. And of course, the Lord was working in our hearts and teaching us new things on this journey with Him. What is the Christian life if we

are not growing, stretching, and being put outside our comfort zones in service to Him?

The girls are doing well. The time in the US was challenging for them. As parents, it was hard to watch them make new friends and then ask when or if they would get to see them again and have to tell them, "We don't know." It obviously impacted Isabel more than Evelyn, but we also know that they will have many memories to look back on. They were also sick a lot, which they kindly passed on to their parents. We definitely felt the love, haha. There has been a definite change in their demeanor since they've been back, and we are glad to see that they like living in Chile. It gives us the peace to continue serving here knowing that they consider this their home.

Más que vencedores,
Matías and Kristen Ladino
Romans 8:37



PRAYER REQUESTS

- Matias and Kristen's health
- For God to send people to work full-time in the ministry alongside us
- God's provision for the construction of the Discipleship Center and our personal support
- Wisdom in decision making
- The Lord's protection over the ministry

Thank you to all of our ministry partners! We rely on your financial and prayer support to work together to reach the world with the gospel.

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