

“Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth; worship the Lord with gladness; come before him with joyful songs. Know that the Lord is God. It is He who made us, and we are His; we are His people, the sheep of His pasture.” Psalm 100:-----

How amazing to be able to shout for joy to the LORD. After an amazing week my heart is filled with joy and wonder. Although mixed with sadness after saying goodbye to a wonderful group from Illinois, my heart was filled with joy and I couldn't help but do as this verse says while I drove home from the airport, listening to a Rondalla CD in Spanish (and understanding it—little things make me excited), and seeing the beauty of the mountains surrounding the city. I can't help but wonder why God has chosen to bring me to live in Monterrey and work alongside the people from Iglesia Cristiana Elim and with groups of people from all over the United States. I am blessed and humbled to be able to be here and being used of God.

I arrived in Monterrey on February 28 and our first group came in that Saturday in the beginning of March. We had a great week with the Jr. Class from a school in Texas. It was neat to see God work through them throughout the week and to see hearts and lives changed. The following week we had one person come down and spent an awesome week with her, getting to know her, letting her experience life here and building relationships with people from the church here. During the third week we were able to do some planning for the summer and continue to work on building relationships in the church. And I've been trying to work on learning more Spanish. Praise God that he helps in learning languages, because I feel as though I have been able to understand and respond in Spanish to what is going on around me better than ever before. This past week we had our final spring group from a church in Illinois. I was blessed to be able to work alongside them and watch God work through them.

I have seen God work in some amazing ways over the last few weeks, in my life, in the lives of the group and in the lives of Mexicans who came to know Christ. Over the last month we did a lot of work pouring concrete for a patio, sidewalk, and parking lot at Dulce Refugio. In addition we helped the church get their camp ready for a camp meeting and worked on putting a second story on a church. We have done multiple nights of ministry around the park and a few in other places around Monterrey as well and have seen many people make decisions for Christ. New kids have been coming to the kids club and church as a result of ministry we did the first week of the Spring. I am humbled to be able to be a part of the work God is doing here in Monterrey.

With spring groups being over, I am heading out with the church to Pueblo Nuevo to join them for Campomento this week. If you think of me I would appreciate your prayers for all of the services are in Spanish, and while I am excited about this and the opportunity to learn more and meet a lot of people from the church, it will also be a lot for my brain to absorb. Following Campomento I will be returning to Pennsylvania to fulfill some speaking engagements and finishing getting together things to bring to Monterrey and tie up loose ends. I will return to Monterrey most likely at the beginning of the summer.

Thank you all for your continual prayers and support. Our God is great and powerful. Shout for joy to the Lord!

In Christ, Jess