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The Vineyard's Costa Rica Mission Trip

Sunday's Update

Hola mi Familia y amigos,

I am so completely overjoyed and moved by the Costa Rican culture. Words can't quite describe the amount of work God is doing in my life and I am so thankful and excited for all the more He has in store for me.

We have started off each day with a group devotional led by Delynn and his wisdom is astounding and very much inspiring. Today particularly we talked about pride. Pride is initially the root of all sin. Delynn used many examples and gave us a list of "The 30 Fruits of Pride." After leaving this group devotional I literally felt like, wow I could probably be one of the most prideful people on this Earth. After that we go into our own "Quiet Time with God" in which I had a lot to surrender a lot of things and confess a lot of my sinful heart. With all of that, God has literally broken me down and spoken to me personally in my quiet time. I normally have the attention span of a squirrel or a dog chasing its tail (there are a lot of dogs here... and this is where that attention thing comes in). I have not at all been distracted and I definitely plan to be taking time out of my every day life to spend in "Quiet Time with God." Today particularly after feeling like the most prideful person, I opened my daily devotional, "Comforts From the Cross" and it talked about the difference between conviction and self-condemnation. Conviction brings us closer to God while self-condemnation brings us to ourselves and away from God. Crazy! I had so needed to hear that.

After starting my day off with a splendid time with God we then had a delicious feast called, "gallo pinto" a.k.a heaven on a plate. Stuffed and ready to go, we were on our way to Pablo's church, La Vina, where we had done much work as you have previously heard from the updates. It was so cool to finally see it all into place for the most part and to see how much work they put into setting up a Sunday service was incredible. Today was the first day for the church members to see the church finished with what we had done and altogether there were 20 church members and 5 kids. The worship was absolutely astounding and led by the ever famous Pablo and his musically talented family. To be able to sing in two different languages to the same song, to the same God, was breathtaking. The passion of the Ticos and their emotional and physical connection with Christ was so genuine. Along with Pablo and his family worshipping our very own worship team led worship and to see them bring a part of The Vineyard and themselves to Costa Rica was fantastic. Delynn then spoke about getting out of our "comfort zones" and how to do that along with what it entails. He spoke in Spanish while his daughter then translated for us "Gringos." After the service we then had a



Matt and Delynn.



Pastor Pablo doing a sound check before church under new tents.



These children are enjoying the tables and chairs that were purchased by our group back in July.

delicious lunch prepared by the women of the church and got to converse and get to know the members of the church.

After much fun at the church we left to go scenic Zip-lining. In Costa Rica, Sunday is a day for families to go out and spend time together doing fun activities. Zip-lining was a whole lot of fun and so beautiful seeing the beauty of Costa Rica. As pale as I am I felt like a true "Tico" doing true "Tico activities."

With all that God is doing we have had so much fun bonding and serving. I, myself have laughed a whole lot and well that doesn't take much but they're laughs that will be treasured forever. I actually just laughed at the cheesy saying, but it was fun sharing with you all. Thanks so much for the prayers and I am so stoked to share all the stories.

To Him be all the Glory,

Kenzie Vandervort



The ladies getting ready to go scenic zip-lining.



The gentlemen also posed preparing to zip-line.

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