

# Day 4 - Prayer Walk, VBS, and Teen Bible Study

Tuesday, June 13, 2017

Happy Tuesday!

We had another successful day down here in the DR. We started, per usual, at 7:15 a.m. with devotionals followed by breakfast. This morning, Bonnie and Pat led us in reflection about our garden project - reminding us that we would not be able to plant this garden had God not first created everything, including seeds to sprout and trees to bear fruit.



We headed out to El Almirante around 8:30 a.m. where we dispersed into morning activities of gardening, construction for the water filtration project, and our first prayer walk.

The gardening project made headway, we spent the morning digging rows

for the seeds and spreading fertilizer - we are now ready for seed planting! On Thursday, we plan to plant seeds for cucumbers, tomatoes, coriander, lettuce, and a few other useful vegetables.

Construction on the water filtration building is moving along, there's a lot of work to do! Today we continued to clean the building out, as well as sift dirt in order to ready materials to create stucco for insulation around the walls.

The prayer walk is something new we tried this year, due to its success at the youth trip in years past. A few of our team members and a couple translators walked through the village to pray for community members and answer prayer requests. It turned out to be a very meaningful experience, for not only our team but also the members of the community. We plan to do another prayer walk tomorrow!

Again, we commuted back towards the city to have lunch at the Hands of Hope office. Today we shared a delicious meal of home-cooked fried chicken, quinoa, fried plantains, and fresh pineapple. Nick and Brennen enjoyed pulling ripe starfruit from the tree in the backyard - which we all tried and loved!



This afternoon we held Vacation Bible School as well as Teen Bible Study, and a few of us attended a meeting with representatives from International Justice Mission (IJM).

VBS today focused on how planted seeds won't grow without strong, sturdy roots. For our roots to grow, we need to know and believe in Jesus Christ. During Teen Bible Study we continued to talk through the Tree of Life - we had about 70 teens from the community attend!

International Justice Mission is a Christian organization focused on human rights, law, and law enforcement. They came to meet with the El Almirante leaders and pastors to discuss issues the community is facing, as well as how the leaders can help prevent and report injustices they see or experience.



We left El Almirante around 5 p.m. and made it back in time to relax a little before dinner and evening devotionals. A few team members (who will not be named) decided to start shenanigans with everyone else by spraying them with squirt guns; they don't know this yet - but the favor will be returned☺.

After dinner, Karmin and Carson led us in devotionals where we talked about how we use *our* hands and feet to be *God's* hands and feet. Every day we need to remind ourselves to use our hands and feet to glorify Him, whether it's through prayer, shoveling, or playing basketball with the kids, everything we do is because of and for God.

We're half-way through the week and still going strong. Thanks everyone for your thoughts and prayers!

Genesis 1: 11-12

And God said, "Let the earth sprout vegetation, plants yielding seed, and fruit trees bearing fruit in which is their seed, each according to its kind, on the earth." And it was so. The earth brought forth vegetation, plants yielding seed according to their own kinds, and trees bearing fruit in which is their seed, each according to its own kind. And God saw that it was good.

