

Dear Friends and Family,

It has been an amazing few months. Thank you for your prayers! Your prayers strengthen us, sustain us and draw us closer to God's heart. After all, isn't that what we all want to be...a people after God's own heart?

Here is a glimpse of what God has been doing in and through all of us together...

Doug, Kyle and I spent September 18th celebrating Chile's independence day with the team in *Sierra Leone*! Doug was invited to teach the pastors. Kyle was helping with a team visiting from the States. I spent time with the amazing families.

It was incredible to experience just a bit of what God is in Sierra Leone. The water project is having a life changing impact among this beautiful people. As water draws the thirsty, God is drawing people unto Himself.

Doug's classes began each day began with the spontaneous singing and prayer of the pastors. Some of these men traveled great distances and slept on the church floor to attend class. We attended a Sunday church service in one of the villages where the joy, singing, and big smiles were contagious!

By the beginning of October, I was back in Chile while Doug was headed off to *Peru, and Ecuador* where he hooked up with Kyle and teams from the States. In Ecuador, our earthquake relief efforts have been focused in San Vicente. The municipality there has given us land to build the church! *God has really been on the move!*

From there, the guys met up again in *Southern Chile*. The property for the church in Melipeuco was purchased! Construction on the school in Lautaro is progressing as we move closer to the March 2018 opening date. The water harvesting projects continue to create opportunities to bless the community.

And "La Bendita Locura", the blessed craziness, continues!

In November, we ICI (Iglesia de Cristo Iberoamericana), had the privilege of hosting a four -day conference together with Eastside Christian Church from CA.

The conference was held here in *Chile* for about 80 pastors and leaders. Three organizations (Eastside, ICI and Iglesias Latinoamericana) attended with pastors, leaders and missionaries from five countries... Chile, Ecuador, Peru, Sierra Leone and USA. This was an amazing mix of different cultures and also different "church cultures"!

The teaching we received has equipped us to "take ministry to the next level". Our time together to connect, to reconnect and remember who we are together in Christ created energy and excitement to move forward. Please pray that God will lead and guide each of us as we seek to apply what we have learned in our unique ministerial

context. *What a timely and incredible blessing! We want to thank all of you who made it possible!*

We wanted to end with what happened the Sunday after the Conference at Church. Before the sermon, Doug called up the original *Chilean missionaries* to Ecuador, Marcelo and Sandra, the *Ecuadorian pastors* and their wives representing 6 churches that have been planted, the young *Chilean missionary* couple now serving in Ecuador, the *Ecuadorian missionary* couple who will be going to *Sierra Leone* next year and the team leader from *Sierra Leone*, Chad...

In Chad's sermon he talked about the power of a conversation, how the conversation between Peter and Cornelius in Acts changed the course of history. He challenged each of us to have a conversation with someone this week and trust that it will be life changing. We would love for you to be part of his challenge!

WE are so amazed at what God is doing in our midst. WE are so thankful to be a small part of what He is doing in the world. WE are so honored that you are part of all of this with us.

Thank you for being a part of our lives. It is truly an honor. We have so much to be thankful for this Thanksgiving!

Blessings, Doug and Shelly