



Dear Supporters,

*God is good.* After coming back from this trip, that is all I can think. He did some amazing things in Perú. I want to thank you so much for supporting me so that I could be a part of it! God used you and I as part of His master plan to reach the people of Máncora. I feel so blessed!

This trip was my youth group's fifth time in Máncora and my second. This is a huge advantage because we are able to



start back up the relationships we made in previous years and keep them going. Similar to last year, this year we spent our time ministering to the children and youth. In the afternoons



we had a Bible Fun Club with the kids and in the evenings we had youth group. In the Bible Fun Club, we had songs with motions, puppets, a message, snacks, crafts, verses, and lots of fun! Instead of being a part of the worship band this year, I was part of the drama team. We did little skits that acted out each day's Bible story. I was also one of the leaders of the 3-4 year old group. This put me in charge of a precious little girl that I met last year named Lizbeth. She was only 2 years old, but every one of the leaders of my group fell in love with her and wouldn't let her be placed in a different group. Her mother is Yaneth, the lady I met last year who I became close with. It was so fulfilling to be able to see that family again and renew our friendship. Here are pictures of Lizbeth and I and then Señora Yaneth and I.



On the second to last day of the children's program, we invited the kids to accept Jesus as their personal Savior. That day we had the highest attendance—170! I was so thankful they were all there to hear that message. Seven children prayed with our children's pastor and were saved that day! Glory to God!

In the evenings with the youth, we organized our services like Crossfire, our youth group in Panamá. We started each night with a game then had acoustic worship, a message, a testimony and small groups. One of our goals with the youth was to give them new ideas that they could use in their own youth group. I was the small group leader of the 12-14 year old girls. Two girls from our team were also part of the group, helping out and leading discussions. Our girls were shy, but I believe that God used that time for them to gain confidence and feel loved by us. Here is a group picture of all of us.





The last night of youth group was really special. The Holy Spirit showed up in a powerful way and did amazing things that none of us could have imagined or accomplished by ourselves. That was the night I gave my testimony. I was pretty nervous because I was going to do it in Spanish, so I had asked for prayer from my team beforehand. Even though I have lived in Panamá almost my whole life, I almost always speak English, so I get shy when I have to speak Spanish. Despite the fact that my voice was a bit shaky, I know that their prayers worked and that I said what God wanted me to. Right after my testimony, we had another set of worship songs that we hadn't had in the previous nights. That was when the Holy Spirit really hit us. All the lights were off, and

people felt free to worship in whatever way they needed. The connection from the Holy Spirit to my youth pastor to his translator and then to each of us was so incredible and strong. We then broke up into small groups and it was obvious that God's presence had touched each of the girls. After the night was over, our team met and many shared what God had done in their lives. Some of them even said that my testimony had touched them personally or other people in their small group. I was very blessed to hear that. Then we prayed and gave God all the glory for that night because He is the only one who deserves it.

On the first night of our youth group, a man who owns a radio station attended the service. He really enjoyed it and asked if we could do it again the next day live on the radio! So each morning the worship team, my youth pastor, and the person who gave a testimony went to his radio station and did the same program as the night before. Our last day in Máncora I was able to give my testimony on the radio. That was a huge opportunity for us because it let us spread Christ's message to even more people than were at the service the night before. The radio station was at the man's house and was very humble. The picture shows me giving my testimony on the radio.



Two things really impacted me on this trip. The first one was how united our team was. That was something I prayed a lot about before the trip because our team had a few groups of close friends, but we didn't really feel like a team before we left. Right from the beginning of the trip, God brought us all together. We weren't only good friends; we ministered together. Each of our specific gifts and talents shone and we helped out without being asked. The second thing was our dependence on the Holy Spirit. Before and after every event we prayed together as a team. That time reminded us that we were there to glorify God and during it we turned everything over to Him. God deepened my understanding of missions on this trip.

Again, I thank you so much for supporting me in this missions trip. I would not have experienced all of these incredible things if it wasn't for your help. THANK YOU!

Love, *Celina*



*Displaying the beautiful handmade bags the church gave us.*

*Showing our joy at the incredible view of Máncora from a lighthouse.*

