

Radical LifeLines

News from Radical Life Ministries

Back to Costa Rica: Recalibrated and Refreshed!

Greetings from Florida! We pray you are well and have enjoyed this Christmas season! Thank you so much for your prayers, encouragement and support this past year! What an amazing year it's been!

We have been in the United States since May. The first three months we were on sabbatical. This was a purposeful time of rest and renewal. During this time, we met with our counselor, followed a reading and

eled throughout the western United States, and we met with friends and supporters and shared in churches in Texas, Colorado, Kansas and Washington. The highlights from the trip included visiting with friends we

haven't seen in a long time and meeting new ones, seeing how God is working in the USA, attending our first **Family Camp** with **Stonewater Church** in Texas and seeing some of God's beautiful creation. Our travels took us to the **Olympic National Park, Mount Rainier, The San Juan National Forest, The Rocky Mountains, The Continental Divide, The Navajo Reservoir, The Great Plains and The Bighorn**

River. We are so thankful for this time of rest and renewal in the Lord.

In August, I was invited by **The Church of Eleven 22** to attend a retreat for church planters in Montana. It was a special time to talk with other pastors and learn from them. We had some great conversations and did some fun things together. It was very encouraging to hear other church planter's struggles, victories and how God remains faithful through it all. My favorite part was listening to the guest speaker, **Charles Martin** (who is also one of my favorite authors of all time!) speak about, "**Our Abba Father.**" Our time together reminds me of the proverb, "*As iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another*" (Prov. 27:17).

During the months of September through November we worked based

from Florida. During this time we held the annual RLM board meeting in Tampa, hosted a pastoral retreat for the pastoral team of **Iglesia Radical** (assistant pastor, **Gustavo Corrales** and youth pastor, **Fernando Piñero**), traveled to meet with friends and supporters in several churches in Florida and Georgia and hosted a Family Camp for the ministry team of Iglesia Radical at **Lake Swan Camp** in Melrose, Florida. For the remainder of this time in the States, we will be working on administrative aspects of the ministry and preparing to return to Costa Rica in January.

Pastoral Retreat



This fall, **Gustavo** and **Fernando** came to spend several days of rest. We had some great conversations, prayed with one another, talked ministry strategy, did some fishing and attended a church service. I'm learning how important this time is with our leaders and look forward to more times like this in the future. Amongst all the ministry Jesus did, He also did normal things in life with the disciples... *like fishing!*



study plan, went to a local church, and spent time together as a family. This was our first sabbatical and after 14 years serving in Jacó...we needed it! Wow! Most of this time, we stayed near the beach in North East Florida. We did some tent camping, also camped in a borrowed pop-up camper, and some friends allowed us to stay in their vacation house. We are so thankful for all of the help we received during this time.

One day when Jesus was with His disciples after a particular busy day of ministry, He said to them, "*Come with Me by yourselves to a quiet place and get some rest*" (Mark 6:31). It wasn't the disciples' idea to rest. Jesus had to teach them that rest is necessary—a lesson He is also graciously teaching us.

The next month and a half, we trav-

...and the Ministry Continued!

The heart of a church planting missionary is to work their way out of a job. Missionaries should always work to teach and equip local leaders to do the work of the ministry, to delegate and empower them to take on responsibilities.

The apostle Paul told Timothy, *“The things which you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses, entrust these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also”* (II Timothy 2:2).

Missionaries who desire to have a long term impact for the Gospel constantly have three questions running through their minds: 1). *Is what we are doing centered on the Gospel of Jesus Christ?* 2). *Is what we are doing sustainable for the local church after the missionaries are gone?* 3). *Is what we are doing reproducible for the local church after the missionaries are gone?* Before missionaries implement a plan, they must first ask themselves these three basic questions. If the answer to any of these questions is “no,” then the missionary needs to either not implement the plan

or make major adjustments to the plan.

These three questions are not mine, but are based on principles found in the New Testament throughout the life



of Christ and the apostles. These principles were taught to me by one of my mentors at **Trinity Bible College, Dr. Paul Fritz**. I’m so thankful he drilled these questions in my heart. In 2006, we began the work in Jacó always

thinking about how to equip, delegate and empower locals to carry on the ministry of the church. Praise God, many have come to understand their calling and responsibility and have responded in obedience.

During this extended time we have spent in the States, the ministry of the local church in Jacó through Iglesia Radical continued! Because of the equipped leadership and their corresponding ministry teams, the Gospel continues to be preached, the Bible continues to be taught, people are being counseled, people are being married, people are being baptized, ministry to families, children and youth has continued!

As missionaries, we are very encouraged and believe is a great victory! This was a big test for the leadership team of Iglesia Radical, and God has been faithful! If you have ever prayed for or supported this ministry you have a part in this victory! Thank you so much! To God be the glory!

Women’s Retreat



Pamela hosted a *small-but-strong-in-the-Lord* team of women from Iglesia Radical. They attended a women’s retreat organized by a ministry called, **“The Truth Republic.”** The retreat was held on a farm in Bell, Florida. The ladies also had a free day and attended a local church service. They returned both encouraged and challenged in their walk with Christ.



Construction in 2020

Praise God! The construction on the new property will continue in 2020! We will add a second story on the current children’s ministry building.

This second story will more than double the children’s ministry space! This space will also provide classrooms for the future school! We will also continue to finish the new parking lot with pavers and landscaping. We are

very thankful to report that because of your giving these two projects are fully funded!

Thank you so much! Imagine the impact a Christian School for children in Jacó could have!!! Wow!!!

Short-Term Mission Teams

In July, we had the privilege of hosting two missions teams. **Stonewater Church, Granbury Texas** helped with some greatly needed remodeling of pastor Gustavo's home that included a new entry-way and staircase.



The Stonewater Team



The Harborside Team

Harborside Church, Palm Harbor, Florida built a much appreciated new roof on a family's home and held children's services in two different communities. We are so thankful for these teams as they help the local church show God's love for people in practical ways and help soften people's hearts to the message of the Gospel.



Ministry Team Family Camp

Each year, we have taken the church leadership and their families to a family camp in Costa Rica.

However, this year to save money, we hosted the families in Melrose, Florida during the week of Thanksgiving. We are so thankful to **Lake Swan Camp** for making this possible! The administration really helped us fit this camp into a missionary budget and we greatly appreciate it! My parents, brother, Joey and sister, Kellie were also a super help! The camp included four families and one individual from the leadership team. Pamela ministered to the children and I

spoke to the adults. We both taught from the life of Abraham, "*The calling to live by faith.*" We celebrated Thanksgiving dinner at my parents house and my dad gave a lesson on the history of the holiday and God's goodness to us all in Christ. We also had a meal and time of fellowship at the Darby's (my cousin, Linda and her husband, George) home in Melrose. What a great time for the team to meet folks who have helped support the ministry for years. We are thankful!

Heralding The Harrells



Mmeet the Harrell family—**Ben, Dakota, Myles and Mack!** We are so thankful for this family! Ben and Dakota are from Jacksonville, Florida and have been traveling to Costa Rica on short-term mission teams for several years. They have been preparing to serve as missionaries with *Radical Life* for the past two years.

Both are graduates of **Lee University**. Ben holds a bachelor degree in worship ministries with a minor in Biblical studies. Ben has served as a worship leader at **The Church of Eleven 22** and **Beach Church**, Jacksonville Beach. Dakota has a bachelor degree in church leadership with a focus on children and youth development and a minor in Biblical studies. She previously served as preschool minister at Eleven 22.

Arriving in December, the Harrells will begin their six months of language studies before their service in Jaco. Ben will serve in worship ministries and Dakota will help spearhead the Christian School for children at Iglesia Radical.

Knapp Family Update

Prayers Answered

- 1). Thank you for praying for this extended time in the States. We believe God recalibrated and refreshed us. Pamela and I were greatly encouraged. We spent lots of time with each other and our kids. We are very thankful for this time and all those who helped.
- 2). The ministry team in Costa Rica has done a great job sustaining the work of the ministry while we were in the States.
- 3). We are thankful for great advancements towards the

immigration process of pastor Dariel and his family from Cuba however...we are still praying for a miracle in this situation!

Prayer Requests

- 1). That God would give us love and wisdom for leading our family, the church and Radical Life.
- 2). Our transition back to Costa Rica.
- 3). The Harrells' transition to life on the mission field and for proficiency in Spanish.



Thank you so much for your prayers and support! May God bless you!

The Knapp Family
The Knapps are serving in Playa Jaco, Costa Rica

Support Address: **RADICAL LIFE MINISTRIES** | P.O. Box 1248 | Keystone Heights, FL 32656 | *All gifts are tax deductible

PRSR1 STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
MARIETTA, GA
PERMIT #215

Post Office Box 1248
Keystone Heights, FL 32656
Radical Life
MINISTRIES