

From: Matias & Kristen Ladino sending@chalkline.org
Subject: Update from Matias & Kristen Ladino
Date: December 12, 2023 at 8:00 AM
To: info@monclovabaptist.org



Mateo woke up in the hospital agonizing in pain. His attacker had come after him with a machete. After wounding him in the head, leg, and hand, he fled, leaving Mateo for dead. The doctor said the cut on his hand was so deep that he came within one millimeter of life and death. While lying on the hospital bed, realizing that God had given him a second chance, Mateo vowed to leave a life of drugs and delinquency and to get help. He traveled eighteen hours by bus and arrived at the Center in early October.



At first, he did not want to accept Christ as his Savior. Matias explained to him that he needed God to transform him from the inside out. One day, after a church service on Sunday, he told one of the leaders that he was going to leave. After much discussion and trying to persuade him otherwise, he decided that he wanted to leave anyway. He could not change without Christ in his life and his emotions were all over the

place. Mateo walked some fifteen miles until someone gave him money for a bus. He took the bus to the closest big city where he slept outside a hospital with no money, food, or plans for his future. His mother said that if he tried to come home, she would put a restraining order on him. Much like the prodigal son, he woke up freezing cold and hungry and realized that he was running from God and wasting the opportunity that had been given to him. He showed back up at the property the next day with the hope that we would let him come back.



One day, while watching the goats on top of the mountain, there all alone in silence, he surrendered his life to Christ. A few weeks after his salvation, Matias

and Mateo went to speak on a local Christian radio station. Mateo shared his salvation testimony for the first time and Matias preached God's word. We are excited about the changes that God is making in Mateo's life. We are sure that God has a purpose and a future for this young man, and we ask you to pray for him as he daily surrenders his will to Christ, battling with his old self and leaving old habits behind.



Juan arrived from Ushuaia at the end of November to become part of the team. He faced many obstacles in getting here. Although Juan has been a Christian for many years, he shared with us how he had never faced such spiritual opposition in all his life. We are thankful that he made it and for his willingness to serve. We ask

that you pray for him as he adjusts to life in a new country and culture, and as he integrates into the team, that God will give him strength each day in his service to the Lord.



Our family is doing well, we are truly blessed and so thankful for all of you who pray for us and give. We would like to wish you and your family a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! "For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given; And the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace" Isaiah 9:6.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

Más que vencedores,
Matías and Kristen Ladino
Romans 8:37

PRAYER REQUESTS

- Matias and Kristen's health
- For unity in our team and Juan as he gets settled in Chile
- Wisdom in decision making
- The Lord's protection and guidance over the ministry
- For the Lord to do a work in the hearts of the Chilean people, to turn to Him for salvation

Thank you to all of our ministry partners! We rely on your financial and prayer support to work together to reach the world with the gospel.

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