



News from God's mission field in the Dominican Republic
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November 2022

"So faith comes by hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ." Romans 10:17

I'm coming up on my six-year anniversary of deploying to the mission field (January 24th). Looking back on six years can be overwhelming. All of the things that God has done, all of the ways I have grown, all of the battles, all of the hard seasons, all of the joys and blessings! To think back to this time six years ago, I was in a season of waiting. Waiting for paperwork to process. Waiting for the missions' "greenlight" that my support network was strong enough to deploy.

The irony is not lost on me that six years later, Rafael and I find ourselves in much of the same place. So much has changed, but a lot stays the same. We find ourselves in another season of waiting. Waiting for paperwork to process. Waiting for the national church of Chile to say it is time to come. Waiting to start the next chapter of our life together. In a lot of ways, it feels that we have been waiting for this move to Chile since we started dating and got married - this has always been the plan, this has always been the next step.

You may not have deployed to a mission field or worked through a visa process to move to another country, but I can pretty much guarantee that you have experienced a season of waiting. Waiting to graduate from school, waiting to get married, waiting for that job interview, waiting. Seasons of waiting are filled with all kinds of emotions. It can be exciting, filled with anticipation. It can be frustrating, filled with questions. Maybe you are in such a season right now.

"Make me to know your ways, O Lord; teach me your paths. Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; for you I wait all day long." Psalm 25:4-5

This psalm is a prayer of mine during this season's transition, **"Make me to know YOUR ways, O Lord; [especially when I want my own way]; teach me YOUR paths [because I can't see a path forward right now]. Lead me in your truth, and teach me, for YOU are the God of my salvation; for YOU I wait all the day long [all the year long and every day in the middle]."**

The New Living Translation finishes verse five by saying, **"All day long I put my hope in You."** According to a quick interlinear Bible search, the Hebrew word we translate to "wait" here is translated in other parts of the bible as expect, wait patiently. The NLT chose to translate this Hebrew word as "hope". *(cont'd next pg)*

(cont'd from pg. 1) Advent is here! The season of Advent is in itself a season of waiting. Waiting with **hopeful expectation** the celebration of the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ - Christmas! There's a hymn that verbalizes this season perfectly, "Come, Thou long expected Jesus, Born to set Thy people free; From our fears and sins release us, Let us find our rest in Thee." (LSB 338) Because of Christ, we can wait in hopeful expectation in our seasons of waiting. We can wait with expectation of what is to come. We can WAIT in HOPE of God's way forward in the middle of our own waiting.

In whatever season of waiting you are in, **wait in hope with us!**

(This writing was also published on our blog, [Flores & Faith](#))

Chile Corner >>>

While we still wait for paperwork in order to move, Rafa has been granted permission to begin his year of vicarage that the church in Chile has requested on the DR side. This is a blessing for us, because he will have assigned duties here while we wait, and his timeline toward ordination will no longer continue to be delayed!



Did you know?

Chile is the top producer of copper in the world, producing 29% of the world's copper. Most of Chile's mines are in the north of the country, near or in the Atacama desert. Chile produced 5.6 million metric tons of copper in 2021, with Peru in 2nd place at 2.2 million metric tons.

Pray with us ...

Here are a few things we are praying about. Will you join us?

- **In thanksgiving for...** opportunities to share the Gospel.
- **In thanksgiving for...** the advent season, while we wait in hope for the coming of our Savior!
- **In thanksgiving for...** Rafa's recovery and continued strength following his knee surgery (Sept 26)
- **In thanksgiving for...** the beginning of Rafa's vicarage and one step closer to his future ordination, God-willing.
- **For...** patience and peace as we trust in God's timing and plan for our future.



In Christ,
Rafael & Jamielynn

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