

July 2022

...by  
*Faith*  
...not by sight



Lily Ortega  
serving in Nicaragua

Hey! My brothers and sisters in Christ!

I really hope this letter finds you well and enjoying God's blessings. It is my pleasure to update you with good things that are happening in my life.

### HOME, BOLIVIA

A few things happened while I was in Bolivia. The first months of this year I was home in Bolivia, and I had a great time with my family. We are a very close family and we always enjoy being together. It was good to see how God is taking care of them, and a joy to see how faithfully they are serving in the ministry. It is a blessing to see my dad

being such a good example of a servant's heart for God. Also, seeing my good friends and sharing my experiences and spending time together was a blessing.

Visiting another mission field (Paraguay) was a great experience for me. I was encouraged by the GMI team's work and lives. It was nice to see the effort they put into teaching and connecting with people in a language that is not the first for three of the families. All four GMI families have a joy that comes from God that sticks to everyone. It was refreshing for my spiritual growth to be among them!

Soon I'll be in the States! I received very good news that my US visa has been approved. God is so good to me. I'll be there from September to the end of December for the missions conferences. I'm so excited because, if it is God's will, I'll meet some of you.



*Kids' Games*

### BACK TO NICARAGUA

It is nice to be back and to start again with new strength and a new perspective in the ministry.

We recently had our big event called Kids' Games. About 220 children attended the program in Nagarote. This year's theme was "Salvation" based on Romans 10:9-11. We had songs, dramas, cultural connections, games, and small groups where each leader teaches the Evangecube. We had about 20 workshops where the children could do crafts, sports, and music.

It is hard work but we want to give the children a time where they can know



*Family time in Bolivia*



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the gospel in the best way, and they did! We always ended each day very tired, but also very happy and satisfied with the work that God does through each person who is involved. We trust that God will continue the work in every kid's heart. A big help during Kids' Games came from our friends from Colorado, Caleb and Abby Schoonover and their family. We were so thankful for how they encouraged our young people in the church as they always enjoy having people from the United States.

I started my discipleship with the girls, and I am teaching at the Bible institute. I am giving guitar lessons to three people, two from the church, and one young lady from the dump area. She is very sweet and was also part of the Kids' Games program. When I first met her she was always very serious, but now every time I see her she smiles at me. Those are the little things that make me excited in the ministry I'm doing.

### A NEW CHALLENGE IN THE MINISTRY

I like challenges but sometimes I am afraid, because there are things that are not meant to be for one person only.

That is why I need Jesus and people who want to be part of this. I am planning to explore other cities in Nicaragua as I want to expand the ministry to the north side of the country. It is hard and lots of work to start something new, so I am recruiting people from our church, Arraigados, who have a heart for missions, or maybe it can be you who is reading this! The plan is to start exploring different cities with a team. It is my desire to make a trip before I go to the States to get to know a new city, and to make contact with people. It will be the first of many trips we will take. God willing, I am very excited for this even though I know it will take time (years probably) to establish a ministry wherever God leads us to go. I like it when God challenges me in this way, because He knows exactly what I need. I am here to share God's mercy and prepare people for the day God calls them to serve in the ministry, whether through teaching the Bible or through the gifts God has given them. I really want to do what is in the heart of God. I want to have a heart that listens to His voice and the strength to continue doing what He has planned for my life and the ones around me.

### A BIG THANK YOU

As the Bible says, nothing in this world happens if our Lord doesn't allow it to happen. My life and everything I do here is a result of your support and prayer. I pray God continues doing His perfect will in your life and gives you the wisdom to always make good decisions for Him. May your life glorify our God every moment.

### PRAYER REQUESTS

- May God continue working in the heart of every child who listened to the gospel, and the parents too.
- Please pray for guidance in my life as I begin this new challenge in the ministry, and pray for the people who will join this team that we can work with a servant's heart and be guided by God all the time.
- Pray for preparation to go to the States. Pray for good connections/ conversations with people and that I can communicate well what God will put in my heart.
- Also keep my family in Bolivia in your prayers. May they always stand firm in their faith.

Thank you so much for walking this journey with me and God. I'll see you soon!!!

Your sister in Christ,

Lily



*Kids' Games*



*Using an Evangecube*



*My students in the institute*