

# EL JORDÁN: December in Pictures

GOD SHOWING UP | EMMANUEL | HIS GOODNESS



MARLEE  
AND  
VALENTINA

## STEP BY STEP

The words that characterized this season for us were **“step by step”**. After paying our workers all of their government-required benefits, we had nothing left for “Christmas”. Also, different ones told us that they wouldn’t be able to help us with Christmas this year, so with a month of activities and work ahead of us, we decided to go ahead with our plans and adjust to whatever God supplied.

It was crazy, last minute, but absolutely incredible, to see how God supplied our every need as we walked through this season. We were overwhelmed with God’s mercy and grace, day by day, giving us more than we had imagined or hoped... [gifts that could only have come from HIS hand, the right amount, at the right time.](#)

“May the Lord our God be with us as he was with our ancestors; may he never leave us nor forsake us. May he turn our hearts to him, to walk in obedience to him and keep the commands....may He uphold the cause of his servant and the cause of his people Israel according to each day’s need, so that all the peoples of the earth may know that the Lord is God and that there is no other.” 1 Kings 8:57-60



DALIA  
AND  
VALENTINA

May the God of hope,  
fill you with all joy  
and peace...

Romans 15:13

OUR WISH FOR YOU AND YOURS  
THIS CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR!



Our two “Neighborhood Bible Studies” got together  
*for their last study, a time of testimonies and fellowship...*

For those who are in the El Jordán News WhatsApp group, you might have prayed for this baby – whose heart quit 3 times when he was newborn. Nicol, his mom, gave testimony to the miracle God did in saving her son’s life, and how that brought her to search for God. Pray that the local churches would be intentional in reaching out to these ladies and bringing them under their wings...

Our property, “The Pilgrim’s Refuge” gets a lot of use in December.

Our “(High-Risk) Teen Girls’ Program”, the “Boys’ Workshops”, and our ladies and their kids under 12 all had very intentionally planned quality times out at our property.... enjoying fresh air, the pool, food and play, and teaching in all different forms... Yesterday, we went with our workers and their families, with NOTHING planned, just rest and relaxation!

Truly, blessings from above.



LEIDY & “HER KIDS”



KATHERINE “CHOCA”  
 (GABRIELA IN THE BACKGROUND)



“A joyful heart is good medicine...”

Proverbs 17:22

THANK THE LORD FOR OUR GOOD GROUP OF VOLUNTEERS.



# VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION DAY

We had to improvise when we couldn't take our volunteers and their families to the property because of torrential rain... but in the end we realized that God's plan was so much better... We had an amazing, fun, ice breaking, relationship building time there within the 4 walls of El Jordán.

## RECOGNITION DAY

After three days of evaluations, the 4 Bible Study teachers made up a personal "Certificate of Recognition" for each of the 13 ladies who finished their year well - highlighting the positive but also challenging them in areas where they need to make decisions or grow.

It was a Spirit filled moment when we gave a special "certificate of love" to our two ladies who fell back into old lifestyles (Teresa and Patricia), encouraging them to "come back". The others crowded around to hug them and give them words of encouragement. This moment destroyed the shame that had kept Patricia away from El Jordán, and she finished off this year encouraged to live honestly for God. *Pray for all of our ladies, but in a special way for Patricia and Teresa.*



PATRICIA AND TERESA

CLAUDIA



OUR KIDS ALSO RECEIVED PRIZES FOR MEMORIZATION AND OTHER CHALLENGES

## Blessed, to bless others

The 13 ladies who successfully completed their year with us, received a food hamper from the Grade 5 students at Keiden and Marlee's school.

What I saw out of the corner of my eye when everyone was gathering up their things to go home, was Claudia, one of our newest ladies, sharing nearly half of her food hamper with Patricia who hadn't received one.

Wow.





**RAFAELA & YOVANA  
WITH THE WREATHS THEY MADE**

# “CHRISTMAS AT HOME”

We had two afternoons where we invited street ladies, from 4 different areas of the city, into El Jordán for a “taste of home”. Both were small groups of ladies (6 and 8), but none of them were in a hurry to leave, they participated in all of the activities, listened well to the Gospel, and ate good food.

Pray that God will draw some of these ladies back next year to be a part of El Jordán!



**BEING JESUS' HANDS OF LOVE**



**OUR STUDENT, HEIDY ALEJANDRA, SHOWED THE STREET GIRLS HOW TO MAKE COOKIES**



**LAURA HAS A HUGE HEART TO RESCUE LIVES FROM THE STREETS WHERE SHE ONCE WAS...**

Laura, invited lots of the street ladies near where she sells, to “Christmas at Home”. In the end, they all backed out, but she “happened” to bump into Rafaela, Yovana and Heidi and brought them.

*We know it wasn't coincidence.*



**LAST YEAR HEIDI WAS TOO DRUGGED TO ENJOY “CHRISTMAS AT HOME” THIS YEAR SHE WAS SOBER**

**WHEN YOVANA CAME TO “CHRISTMAS AT HOME” SHE HAD BEEN OUT OF JAIL FOR A WEEK, SHE WAS DESPERATE AND DIDN'T KNOW WHAT TO DO.... THIS PICTURE IS FROM SUNDAY... SHE HAS STARTED ATTENDING A CHURCH...**





MARYLUZ,  
GÉNESIS &  
MERY



# CHRISTMAS EVE SURPRISES

Rice has over tripled in price this year, other staples have doubled... Everyone was excited to find big bags of rice in their hampers!

Thank the Lord for His provision!



DORIS,  
DANIEL & JULIANA



ALE, KATHERINE,  
LILI, ZOE AND EUNICE



LEIDY &  
KEILA



ADRI,  
ISABELITA  
& BELLA



## “God loves me...”

Adriana was so touched to find out that someone in Canada prays specifically for her and sent her a deluxe Christmas hamper and a chicken. Tears rolled down her cheeks as she said, “God keeps showing me how much He loves me!”

May everything we do, point to our Heavenly Father!



Anyone who has been stealing must steal no longer, but must work, doing something useful with their own hands, that they may have something to share with those in need. Eph. 4:28



We divided up our students into teams to make Christmas sweet bread, cakes, cookie decorating kits and a variety of cookies to sell at our three day "CHRISTMAS FAIR". This gave our ladies the opportunity to WORK HONESTLY with their hands. Our ladies worked SO hard, coming early and staying late. El Jordan was a hive of activity with every little corner being converted into a "work area". We are so thankful for our industrial oven that was given to us over two years ago which makes all of this baking possible! God blessed the work of our ladies' hands, and basically everything sold. We missed Tania (our worker who passed away unexpectedly at the end of August). She had a GIFT in the kitchen. She loved teaching our ladies, and they loved her.



As we look at 2025, pray for us as we figure out how to cover the "holes" we have. Pray that God will bring the right people to be a part of our team.

Thanks to each and every one of you for being a part of the ministry, through your prayers, encouragement and giving. We love and appreciate you! God's richest blessings on you!

*Love, Marco, Corina Keiden & Marlee*



**Walking alongside those in their process of change.**

"El Jordán" exists to provide integral SUPPORT, GUIDANCE and TRAINING with Biblical foundations to people on the streets or at risk of falling into the streets, who desire change in order to live with dignity and honesty, pleasing in the sight of God.

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*Avant*

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