

Ephesians 3:18-19

Knives and Kids Ministry Don't Mix

At the end of December we had the opportunity to hold a very special Christmas celebration with the Kids' Club in Bosa. We had one of the biggest turnouts of the year as our regular attendees invited their neighborhood friends to share in the festivities.

This time was full of laughter, joy, games, treats, and a wonderful time in God's Word. However, this joy quickly turned to fear as one of the older (14 year-old) boys who was invited for his second time got upset with Franklin for cutting in line during one of the games. He pulled out a large knife threatening Franklin. Praise God, we were able to intervene and nobody got hurt.

Franklin was one of the first boys that we met at the beginning of the pandemic. He was soft spoken and eager to learn from God's Word. He grew so much in his understanding of who God is as he faithfully completed his Bible study packet EVERY week. However, once we started in person Kids Club in September 2021, Franklin stopped attending and we lost contact with him. The Christmas party was the first time we had seen him since September, and his demeanor had changed drastically. Franklin has some new friends who are not a good influence and he has begun struggling with anger and trying to fit in with the wrong crowd.

Please pray for Franklin, and for each of these kids and youth as they are faced with the daily decision to choose to walk with Christ or to give in to living like those that are in the world. The neighborhood where we are planting the church and hosting kids club has a huge problem with drugs and gang influence. Our heart is to reach the kids with the Gospel so that they will have the tools they need to resist the temptations they face on a daily basis.

We hope that Franklin and each of these kids **"may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge— that [they] may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God."**

(Ephesians 3:18-19; grammatically edited in plural form)



For additional updates follow us on our Facebook page at: fb.me/BibleWithTheBarretos

Simply click LIKE to follow the posts. Or find us on YouTube by searching **Barreto Family**.

Prayers:

- We are back to searching for a building for the church plant in Bosa. This has become more and more of a need as the kids club continues to grow.
- Continue to pray for our apartment hunt... It has been quite difficult to find an apartment with enough space, on-site parking (this is not common), and that accept foreigners as renters.
- For wisdom as we plan for the upcoming Bible Institute class that will take place at the end of February.

Praises:

- We officially have a FREE Bible Institute office in Colombia and this month we painted it, and purchased a desk and bookshelf! We need God's grace and guidance as we file the papers to register World Reach as an NGO in Colombia.
- We had an amazing time of prayer, fellowship, planning, and study on our recent retreat with all of the Colombia World Reach Missionaries and their spouses.
- Andrés is finishing his first seminary class this week!
- For God's protection. We are so thankful for our physical, spiritual, and emotional health.



We had an amazing retreat in January. We were able to get to know one another, pray together, and plan for the upcoming Psalms class. One of the things that stood out to me from this retreat was the definition of a leader: **leaders move people to complete God's plan.** May we keep this in mind as we continue serving and leading here in Colombia.

If you are interested in supporting our ongoing ministry financially with either monthly or one-time giving you can do so in a few different ways.

1) By going online to <https://world-reach.org/> and clicking on "Donate Now" then select "Andrés and Kayla Barreto."

2) You can also mail checks, with "Andrés and Kayla Barreto" in the memo line, to:

World Reach, Inc.

P.O. Box 26155

Birmingham, AL 35260

(Checks should be made out to World Reach)

3) The third option is through an EFT automatic withdrawal.

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