

*Maria Velez*

JULY 2023 PRAYER LETTER

Recently while reading a book, the author asked: *"What is God doing?"* Think with me for a moment, what is God doing? After coming up with hundreds of answers in my head, I continued reading and the author said, *"He is fulfilling His plan."* And as basic as it sounds, He is! And there is nothing that gives more hope and rest than this, that God is fulfilling His Plan. Don't you think?

So, in the light of this "simple" but transcendental truth, I am deeply glad to write to you as a witness of what God is doing to fulfill His Plan in Colombia.

*-May*

The World Reach Colombian team was blessed to gather to be edified through an intensive training with Evangelism Explosion Ministries. It was a time where we learned different ways to connect with children, youth and adults and share the Gospel with them. During this time and in order to apply what we had learned, we went out to share the Gospel. We had the opportunity to share with a young man named Nicolas who had been released from prison a few days before. We had a very good conversation with him about how God, through Jesus, also

wants to set him free from the prison and the condemnation of sin. He was seriously considering the Gospel and it is our hope that he has decided for Christ.

This month I also shared with a group of 11 young people from Germany who came to my city on a short mission trip. I shared with them two workshops: one about the gospel and the other about the challenges of living as a missionary. It was a very special time where we remembered the importance of understanding, knowing, sharing, and living the gospel. We had a very special time of prayer. I was very blessed and loved by God as I share with this group. It is my desire that these young people, upon returning to their country, will be agents of change and transformation for the glory of God.

*-June*

Camps time! - Same seed, many fields

It was a season where I was able to experience firsthand the parable of the Sower that Jesus once shared.

The first camp was organized by my local church. God in His grace gathered approximately 35 teenagers for 4 days to hear the Gospel of Hope and the great invitation of reconciliation that God has for their lives.



The young believers were challenged and affirmed in their convictions and the non-believers were exposed to their condition before God. I was speechless with the response of these kids. Many publicly confessed their sins and manifested their decision for Jesus. Praise God! We long for the Holy Spirit to continue to work in their hearts and affirm their decision of faith.

Please pray for: Danna, Isaac, Simon, Johan, Juan Manuel, Alejandro, Estefany. These are some of the names of those who affirmed their belief and surrendered their lives to Jesus. Some of them are now attending our church.

The second one was organized by the World Reach team. God again in His commitment to His Plan and to make Himself known to mankind, gathered 28 young people for 4 days to listen to the Gospel.



This time I had the privilege of sharing more intentional times with the girls through workshops. It was a different field but where the same seed was sown with the same love. We longed for God to give growth in time. Some of them were restless and asked good questions. God is at work.



## -Prayer Request

- For meekness and humility of heart, and wisdom. This month I will be teaching 3 workshops on basic biblical counseling principles to a group of women at my church.
- For the women's camp at my local church in August. 24 unbelieving women will be attending!
- For two girls I am mentoring in counseling. Pray that they will persevere in the faith in the midst of their struggles and temptations and that they may rest in the gospel and its sanctifying work.

## -Praises

- For the remnant of God in all parts of the world that continues to be light and salt in the midst of such hostile days.
- For every person who at this time was able to hear the gospel.
- For each person who believed the gospel.
- For each one of you who reads our letters, prays for us and gives to the missionary work.

By Grace alone, in Christ alone,

María Vélez

If you would like to partner with a one-time gift or recurring monthly gifts to provide the support we must raise for the mission of World Reach to serve *in Colombia*, here is more information on how to do so:

*To donate online*, go to [world-reach.org/donate](http://world-reach.org/donate) to give once or set up a monthly gift via credit card. We also offer the option to give monthly via an Electronic Funds Transfer from your bank account. This is our preferred method because you will incur no third-party processing fee, and the transfer can be set up by going to [world-reach.org/donate](http://world-reach.org/donate) and clicking on "EFT Giving" at the top of the page.

*To give by check* made payable to World Reach, mail to the address below with a note indicating your preference for supporting "María Velez ministry": World Reach P.O. Box 26155 Birmingham, AL 35260-0155