



MAY 2013

# KATIE'S KORNER

## NEWS FROM ECUADOR



Greetings!



Katie Bolgiano

Happy May! I cannot believe that I am coming to the end of yet another school year. Pretty soon I will be packing up my classroom for the end of the year. I will be packing my things to move. (My new apartment is only two blocks away, but still.) Then I'll be packing up to head back to Maryland for a visit. That's a lot of packing. But I have found that sometimes God requires us to do that in our spiritual lives, so that He can unpack what needs to be unpacked and put it in place. This year has been a very difficult year full of lots of spiritual attacks and testing. But in all of that, I need to stand firm. I need to gather what's most important - faith, patience, joy, love, God's Word that is hidden in my heart, bold prayers, a willing heart - and I need to pack them with me. Many times we take extra things and then we end up lugging those around with us until we become tired. Luckily though, our answer is found in His Word. Come to me all who are weary and heavy burdened and I will give you rest. We can't take it all

with us, so we have to eventually surrender it. Eventually it becomes too much to drag around. Surrendering to God is something that is so unnatural, so countercultural, and so difficult. I will be the first to say that I am not good at it at all. There are things that I have to re-surrender to God about 10 or 20 times a day. We can say "It's out of my hands and in God's hands" until we are blue in the face, but until that becomes more than words, until it takes root in our hearts, it doesn't mean much. When I am in the midst of tests and trials, James 1:2-3 are the last two verses that I want to hear but they somehow fuel me to keep fighting the good fight, also. As I have been reading my Bible in this time, I have noticed an overarching theme in what God has been compelling me to read. It is summed up very nicely in Mark 10:27. Jesus looked at them and said, "With man this is impossible, but not with God; all things are possible with God." No matter what the situation might be, God is bigger. He works in ways that we don't understand because His ways are not our ways. While we feel trapped by the constraints of time, we serve and worship a God who is outside of time, who created time. When I stop to think about this, I feel so small. I feel silly for worrying about things I don't know. I become reminded that I just need to rest in Him and trust Him. And when I am trusting God, then I can thank Him for what He has already done even though I have not seen it yet, because He sees my life circumstances outside of time. Bless the Lord, oh my soul, bless the Lord.

Here in Quito we are a little confused about which season we are in. That being said, there are only two - rainy or dry. Rainy season started really late this year, around April, when it is usually ending. So now we are in the third week of May and it is still raining. When it rains it gets really cold. In our Bible study we had planned last week to make sandwiches to take with a cup of soda to the guards around the neighborhood and pray with them. Then the rain happened and God changed our plans. Instead, we made hot coffee and sandwiches and took them to people that we found in the street - a mother carrying a baby on her back and her two daughters, a woman selling her last few bags of fruit along the road before going home for the night, a woman digging through the trash to find items she could take to the recycling center to get a few pennies for, a group of street boys juggling to earn whatever people were willing to spare. As we heard their stories, something struck me - we all have a story. Many times we don't want to listen, because listening is hard. But when we take the time to listen to other people's stories, we begin to see them through the eyes of Christ. And once we have seen someone through the eyes of Christ, we are changed. As we gave them their sandwiches and coffee, we prayed with them and shared this Word with them - Luke 1:37 For with God nothing shall be impossible. Nothing is impossible for a mother desperate for a job and broken because her brother had just been killed. Nothing is impossible for a woman who doesn't know if there will be enough to go around tomorrow. Nothing is impossible for a woman short on money and mourning the loss of her mother. Nothing is impossible for 5 boys cold and hungry without a home waiting for them. Their situations seem unfair and impossible, but with God nothing shall be impossible. I pray God's Words takes root deep in their hearts, and in our hearts, too.

My family at All Saints' please know that I pray for you often. I love you all and look forward to the time that I get to spend there this summer.

Numbers 6:22-27

22The Lord said to Moses, 23 "Tell Aaron and his sons, 'This is how you are to bless the Israelites. Say to them:

24 ""The Lord bless you  
and keep you;

25 the Lord make his face shine on you  
and be gracious to you;

26 the Lord turn his face toward you  
and give you peace."

27 "So they will put my name on the Israelites, and I will bless them."

In Christ alone,

*Katie*



---

## **Stay Connected**

Katie Bolgiano  
Academia Alianza Internacional  
Casilla 17-11-06186  
Quito, ECUADOR  
Phone 011-593-983720003  
Kb1322@Live.com



Try it *FREE* today.