

Let the name of the Lord be praised, both now and forevermore.

- Psalm 113:2

JANUARY 25, 2014

CALEB & LAURA COOK MONTEVIDEO, URUGUAY

When did you start a personal relationship with God? For William and his ten-year-old son, Agustín, it was when three complete strangers in a park told them about God's love for them.

But before I get to that story, I have to say that the first ever Uruguayan summer camp was amazing. For six days, twenty-five students and young professionals (a huge number for Uruguay) received training on building spiritual movements, had fun by the pool, ate great food, and participated in outreaches to the community.

It was during one of these outreaches in a nearby park that Caleb, Andrés (Cru's national director in Uruguay), and Daniel met William and Agustín. After introducing ourselves and exchanging some small talk, we sat down to listen to William's story. In all honesty, I didn't expect what I was about to hear.

William started to explain how, angry from the divorce that happened between him and his wife, his eighteen-year old daughter left home and became addicted to drugs. She blames her mom for the divorce, and recently threatened to kill her mother and her new boyfriend. While continuing to describe a complicated situation, William got especially emotional as he spoke about his concern for his young son who is caught in the middle.

Andrés asked if he could share about the message of Jesus, a message that has given him hope. William was curious, and we shared the Gospel with him and Agustín. At the end of the conversation, while holding hands and in tears, the two prayed and put their trust in Jesus.

Immediately afterwards, we introduced them to our whole group and welcomed them to God's family. Laughter and hugs were exchanged, and we left with William's contact information to connect him with a local church. The next day, Andrés called William to see how he was doing. By that time, William had shared Jesus with his girlfriend and had started reading the Bible with Agustín. He had many questions and wanted to meet the local pastor and start going to church.

Many of the university students we meet come from difficult family backgrounds. This small country has some of the highest depression, divorce, suicide, drug and alcohol addiction, and abortion rates in all of the Americas. In spiritual terms, things here are dark.

At the end of the week, many of the people who came to the camp shared about different ways God had worked in their lives during the week. William and Agustín, though still in very difficult circumstances, have a new hope. Thank you so much for partnering with us in ministry here in Uruguay.

In Christ,

Caleb + Laura



Andrés (purple shirt) introducing William and Agustín (in the hats) to our group

Prayer Requests

Please Pray for William and Agustín.

Please pray for the dozen other people who also put their trust in Jesus during the Summer Camp Outreaches!

The Summer Missions Project portion is still going on. Please pray for the staff, students, and volunteers as they share the message of Jesus in three separate cities east of Montevideo.



A caring community passionate about connecting people to Jesus Christ

Caleb.Cook@cru.org

Laura.Cook@cru.org

calebandlauracook.weebly.com

Caleb y Laura Cook

Francisco Canaro 2248 Apto. 904

11200 Montevideo URUGUAY