

To be completely honest, I was rather nervous before Mexico because it was my first time going on a mission trip, and I didn't have the slightest idea of what to expect. That was a blessing in and of itself because I was totally blown away by how much God taught me within that short period of time, which I probably would not have been open to receive if I came into it wanting certain things to happen.

During the trip, it was as if God was showing me different facets of Himself. To give a few examples: the beautiful, enormous mountains that made me feel so tiny and insignificant were formed at His hands showing the sheer vastness Who He is. Teaching and reminding me that He who created all of the beauty that surrounded us CAN DO ANYTHING. Yet, not to contrast but complement, through a simple hug from Reynaldo, Selena, and their brothers, I was reminded that His love does not have to be displayed in a showy manner but can be felt in the smallest things. Through the simplicity (something I am greatly lacking) of the people we met along the way, it felt like God was telling me, "These are My people. They, too, are My creation. I will show them the Way of salvation just as I showed you." Lastly, but certainly not least, the way a group with as many different personalities as we had worked together for one purpose was like watching 1 Corinthians 12 come to life before our very eyes. Beyond amazing.

After returning, I know for a fact that I will often think back to different points during our time there and learn something new each time and that's thanks to God and each of you.

Sorry to make this even longer, but may as well include the mountain verse contemplation, right? When Maria F and I were searching, we really couldn't decide on just one but below are verses among the ones we picked:

***"(1) Oh, that You would rend the heavens! That You would come down! That the mountains might shake at Your presence--(2) As fire burns brushwood, As fire causes water to boil--To make Your name known to Your adversaries, That the nations may tremble at Your presence! (3) When You did awesome things for which we did not look, You came down, The mountains shook at Your presence."***

Isaiah 64.1-3

A few things really stood out to us

- It's like the prophet Isaiah was asking God to show Himself and that His coming would manifest itself in the shaking of something as permanent and immovable as a mountain.
- God does awesome things that we DON'T EVEN LOOK FOR...probably because we're looking in the wrong places! Or maybe also looking for the wrong things but God wants to show us something else!
- Verse 3 reminded us of the earthquakes during the crucifixion and the resurrection. God shook the foundations of the earth when showing us His LOVE! It's like He's telling us, "WAKE UP! I AM HERE!"

Writing the following with tears in my eyes: I love and miss each and every one of you so so so so very much. Please remember me in your prayers.