

FLETCHER STEPS

2018 Christmas Newsletter

Merry Christmas from the Fletcher Five!

We can hardly believe that 2018 is almost over! This year has been amazing. We are celebrating all the things we were privileged to experience this year, all the new relationships we have made, the very important groundwork that has been laid for the Kingdom of God and for our work here in Ecuador, the precious fruit that is ripening because of gospel centered conversations, and all the work that Christ has done in each of us this year. No doubt, 2018 has been a good year! We hope that you have seen God's goodness this year as well.

Allison is thankful for her connections with other homeschooling moms and the co-op she is co-leading. She is thankful for her ladies bible study and for the time we got to spend with her parents this year. Both of us are thankful for all of the celebrations we had this year, birthdays and holidays, and the way our team of missionaries is coming together here in Cuenca. We are also very thankful for the healthy way that our children have adjusted to living in Ecuador. A recent visit from our dear friend Christina and her son Tucker was also a truly special highlight of the year. The love that each of you shared with us in Christmas cards and thoughtful gifts was amazing. Joshua is thankful for his eleven students at the seminary and their spiritual growth. He is especially thankful for the way God has used his artwork this year in our church in Racar and the relationship building we have experienced there.

We are very excited about 2019! We are both looking forward to deepening the relationships we have made with Ecuadorians and making more connections through our work with the seminary and the local church. We will be hosting a short-term missions team from North Carolina next year. We are looking forward to working with them. We will be traveling around the country much more this year, working with other OMS missionaries and meeting the leaders and teachers at other seminaries in different parts of the country.

Of course, none of our plans for 2019 would be possible without the gracious support that is provided by your faithful obedience and sacrificial giving. Because of your generosity and an interest free loan from the mission, we were able to purchase a ministry vehicle. Without this vehicle our work here would not be able to continue. Thank you so much!

In December of every year, individuals and businesses look to make End-of-Year tax deductible donations as they close their 2018 finances. If you are one of these folks, please consider donating to our vehicle fund so that we can pay off our interest free loan so that OMS can make those funds available to other missionaries who need to make up a shortfall in funds for large purchases.

It is quick and easy to make special End-of-the-Year contribution online at:

<https://onemissionsociety.org/give/TheFletchers>

Q and A with Three MK's About 2018

Q. What was your favorite thing you experienced in this last year?

A. (Grace) Getting my rabbit Sally on Oct 30th of 2017. She died on November 8th of this year. She was the best rabbit anyone could ever ask for. I always called her my precious little treasure. Sally helped me adjust to living here in Ecuador. I also enjoyed turning 15 in Ecuador because I had a special "Quincenera" party. We all dressed up and I was given a special promise ring from my parents. It was a good first year of Highschool.

A. (Abigail) I turned 13 this year and started 8th grade. I enjoyed meeting new people, getting to know people in our mission and learning about Ecuadorean culture. I also love my chickens.

A. Simeon: I loved my Golden Birthday! I turned 10 on October 10th! I loved seeing my friend Tucker who came to visit in November.

Q. What is the favorite thing that you are experiencing now?

A. Grace: Horseback riding this year has been my favorite thing we are currently doing. I love riding and getting to ride different horse breeds. I like seeing the other Missionary Kids there as well.

A. Abigail: Right now, discipleship meetings with my friend Hannah, my voice lessons in Spanish and learning Spanish and of course horseback riding, which has been good exercise and I like riding Mula on the trail. (Mula is the name of a horse) And I love the new chicken yard we have for my chickens.

A. Simeon: I really enjoy training Jujitsu twice a week and my drum lessons.

Q. What are you looking forward to in the year to come?

A. Grace: I am looking forward to going to camp in 2019 with other MK's.

A. Abigail: I am looking forward to Christmas. I am also looking forward to our home ministry assignment and getting to see our friends and family.

A. Simeon: I am excited about the MK camp coming up next year at Camp Pallatanga and all the activities there.

Our prayers for you at the end of 2018 and the beginning of 2019

There are no words to express adequately the great love and appreciation we have for each and everyone of you. You have been amazing to us this year and we are humbled and overwhelmed by your love and generosity. You are constantly in our prayers, even more so now than when we were seeing you face-to-face with more regularity. As 2018 comes to a close and 2019 begins, we are praying that God will be very present with you and your family. We pray that you will overflow with thanksgiving for the blessing God has given you in 2018 and the promises He has given you for 2019. We pray that the challenges of last year have seasoned you for opportunities that 2019 will bring. We pray that this next year you will become even more sure that you are loved by your creator and that in 2019 even the gates of hell will not prevail against you because of His great love for you.