

# Ehlers Family Letter



May 2011



Miles meeting the street cat we took in.



Fruit stand near our place.

## **This Is El Jordán**

In the three weeks we have been here, we have experienced many examples of the essence of El Jordán's ministry.

On our first Saturday, we helped out at a garage sale where El Jordán was selling the crafts that are made there. The people that make the items keep the full profit of sale.

We witnessed God's love demonstrated to a family who had lost their baby in the womb at 19 weeks. One of our volunteers went to the hospital to be with the mother, and eventually brought the baby back to El Jordán to place him in the coffin that Sam helped build before taking him to the family's home for burial. Today, we went along to visit the parents and their five children.

Sam fixed up one of their bicycles, while Jess and Corina met with the mother and children. The father, whose heart has been hard towards God and El Jordán, invited Sam over again, offering to teach him auto body repair.

El Jordán had a Mother's Day tea on May 25<sup>th</sup> (Mother's Day here is May 27<sup>th</sup>). Jess helped with decorating and serving, and Sam helped to entertain the kids. Watching the women laugh and forget about their worries for an afternoon was a special experience.

Our biggest fear was that we would not be useful here. We've been happy to find that many of our skills match up well with what El Jordán needs. We've been doing some odd jobs as well, like building doll chairs, cleaning, and helping butcher chickens (Sam) and making cards, proofreading, and decorating (Jess).

## Our Family

Thank you for praying for us during our travels and as we started our work in Bolivia. As many of you know, our visas came in the mail the day before we left! Praise God.

Our plane rides went really smoothly, we've been pretty healthy and we're settling into our routine.

We're living on the top (fourth) floor of El Jordán, in a nice 2-bedroom apartment.

Last week we found a little street kitten in the road and took it home. Miles named him "Orange" and he lives with us.

Miles plays with the other kids that are here while their mothers are in class some days, and some days he hangs around with whatever we are doing.

Sam has been practising his Spanish as much as possible, and Jess is starting tutoring later this week.

We're finding our way around the city, and Sam has bought a bike for transportation. The bugs are not as bad as we expected (though some are really big). The air is thicker, and the weather has been mainly in the high 20's and humid. We are heading into the cold season.

For the entire law is fulfilled in keeping this one command: "Love your neighbour as yourself."

Galatians 5:14

## Partner with Us

Thanks to everyone who has prayed for and donated towards this ministry. Since we are fully funded, additional donations would cover work funds and projects here in Santa Cruz, as well as any unexpected costs. Donations may be sent to:

**[www.avantministries.org/give](http://www.avantministries.org/give)**

Or mail payment to:

Avant Ministries  
2121 Henderson Hwy  
Winnipeg, Manitoba  
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Our project number is **11846**.  
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*Please pray...*

We're glad to be here and so far everything is going pretty smoothly!

For our adjustment to the Bolivian schedule – work from 8-12:00, then from 2:30-6:30.

That our Spanish will continue to improve.

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