



From top: Serena & Emily introduce Leidy to Christ! Rebecca & Chelsey in prayer with new believers Fernanda & Malaga. Evangelism training with Ecuador Cru student leaders. Hadley (just turned 4!) at a fair in the park. Daniel (despite his bumps) receives a "Que Lindo!" every day.

Students donned heavy coats as gray clouds masked the sun's heat; a chill hung in the air. The weather reflected our mood: it had been a tough day on campus. At this particular university, we not only faced the usual spiritually & emotionally taxing assignment of 6 hours of spiritual conversations & evangelism, but also the mentally taxing assignment of doing most of that *in Spanish*.

We were ready to call it a day a half an hour earlier than we'd planned. I almost caved, (but only because I was conscious of the example I was setting as a leader) but instead said, "Alright guys, let's trust God for one more conversation." We sprang up off the stairs before we could reconsider and took off in pairs. Madi and I (mercifully!) found a student who spoke excellent English. Dominica joyfully obliged to doing our "Perspectives" worldview survey. A great spiritual conversation ensued, and at the end, she wanted more information about the Christian community that met on her campus! We said our goodbyes with the traditional "beso" (kiss on the cheek) and promised to get together again soon.

During our conversation, I noticed our other teammates across the plaza talking to a young woman. At this point, I could tell they were sharing a small blue booklet—a Gospel presentation. They gestured not to wait for them so we dodged traffic to catch the bus. En route home, messages pinged our phones. "Leidy," the student they were talking to, had eagerly absorbed the message of the Gospel and decided she wanted and needed to ask Christ into her life *right now*. Wow, were we glad we hadn't thrown in the towel just yet!

As we huddled up in "Pollo Comparo" (what I affectionately think of as the Ecuadorian version of Chick-Fil-A) to debrief with Dan, the children, & the rest of our team, we learned that Leidy wasn't the only student who had trusted Christ that day! Two other young women, Fernanda & Malaga, decided to respond in faith to Jesus. Our next step is to help establish them in their new relationship with Christ, and connect them with Ecuador Cru student leaders who will continue to help them grow to maturity once we're gone.

Is everyday so tough? No. Is everyday so fruitful? No. We are committed to 4 more weeks of "taking the initiative, in the power of the Holy Spirit, to share Christ, and leave the results up to God." We so appreciate your continued prayers that are protecting our team, fueling our mission, & reaching the lost!