

# DESTINO CRISTIANO

A SPIRIT-FILLED, BILINGUAL CHURCH IN LA PAZ, MEXICO

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## Message from Pastor Jerry Pineda

### The Walls Came Down



There's something significant about walls coming down. Whether they are walls in your heart, walls in your mind, or literal walls in a building. It all starts with intention, but for a wall to come down, we must add action to our intentions – we must make a move, and keep moving. In a spiritual sense, we have to pray and push through, and trust in God's supernatural principals. And when the breakthrough happens, we experience joy and freedom!

Now, in a building with concrete and brick walls, there has to be a team of strong men willing to put a sledgehammer to thick, stubborn material. These men chip away at something that was built to last through the centuries! There is sweat, and dust, and a bigger mess than anyone anticipated! But this is what happened at Destino Cristiano in February. We broke through the wall and the result is pure joy and enough space for more people to be added to the church and enjoy their freedom in Christ.

God is so good. He sent us to La Paz, and then He sent us the people who could not only help us build His church, but who came with talents and servant hearts. Whoever said life as a church planter was an adventure knew what they were talking about!

## The Sound of Music



The final phase of the Destino renovation project included upgrades for our sound. With the help and expertise of Stefen West, the sound of music at Destino has greatly improved, and we are prepared for future growth!

## New Stage. New Storage.

While February's renovation project was exciting and a sign of God moving in La Paz, the moving and altering of the stage tasted a little bittersweet. Our original stage was built by George and Denise Odom, who arrived as our first construction missionaries 3.5 years ago for the specific purpose of building our platform for music and preaching. Thankfully, we were able to use almost all the wood from the original stage and so we still have remnants of the Odoms' work in our church. A big thanks to Mike Rogers, a member of Destino, and to Don Terseiff, another construction missionary for their work on the stage. Special thanks to Don who spent 2 months helping build our storage pantry, and the wall covering our main bathroom!



## Missionary Intern



My name is Julia Hawley and I interned at Destino Cristiano for about 3 months. The following are my reflections of my time in La Paz as a whole.

When I first arrived, I was so excited to serve and learn anything and everything I could from Pastors Jerry and Jamee. With no time to settle in, I jumped in and helped with worship my very first Sunday here. I came with a mission to impart worship training and leadership training, especially with the young people here. However, the first week here there were no youth leaders to be found and only pastor Jamee for the worship team. Some people were on vacation and some were

sick, and some were dealing with family matters. So, my first lesson that I learned while being here in Mexico is this: "It is what it is." Accept things as they are and not what you want them to be.

As I served in the worship, I immediately had my eye out for more people who had music talent and those who might want to serve on the worship team. I prayed to God that He would send musicians and singers. Within my first month, God began to reveal those people. Guitar players, singers, piano players and others. And while, these people may have had musical skill, not all had a deep understanding of worship. My task was clear; to set an example of worship and lead this team to further encounter God's presence. My second lesson that I learned was this: "Everyone is at a different place with their walk." In other words, "Meet people where they're at."

Finally, in the second month, I started my leadership class with a total of 5 leaders. The Lord placed a series on my heart to share with these young leaders. I shared this series called, "the Blind Leader." The idea behind it was to reveal those areas that may blind a leader. First we talked about not being blinded by the dark, highlighting the importance of the Word and prayer. The second was being blinded by convenience and comfort, highlighting the importance of love and connection. The third was being blinded by the mirror, highlighting the heart of a servant. I love that I was privileged to speak into these young leaders and see the fruit as they lead the youth.

God is doing something awesome in the youth and young adults of La Paz, I am honored to be a part of it. God is using Destino Cristiano to show the people of La Paz, Love, Purpose and that God has a Destiny for each person. I believe that we have just brushed the surface of what God is going to do.

I am honored to have been the first missionary intern here at Destino Cristiano. My life will be forever changed, my perception of ministry clearer than ever before, my heart broken even more for the lost, and my soul consumed by the command of Christ to Go into all the world and preach the Gospel and make disciples. Thank you Pastors Jerry and Jamee, I love you with all my heart.

## The "First" Wedding Celebration

There are all kinds of "firsts" when planting a church, and in this case, it's the first wedding for two members of Destino Cristiano. In March, a longtime couple, Fraivet Corrales and Jorge Torres, celebrated their union in the church sanctuary with about 70 family and friends in attendance. The nuptials, performed by Pastor Jerry, included a candlelighting ceremony, and later, the couple enjoyed their first dance, a catered dinner, and cutting of the cake. The evening also included many toasts with words of love and support. Congratulations Fraivet and Jorge. We look forward to celebrating many more years of joy and happiness with you!



### AN HOUR OF PRAYER

Meets @ **9am** on Mondays

### ENGLISH BIBLE STUDY

Meets @ **10am** on Wednesdays

### YOUTH BIBLE STUDY & SERVICE

Meets @ **5 pm** on Saturdays

### ADULT SPANISH BIBLE STUDIES

Meets @ **5pm** on Thursdays at the home of Toño and Esmeralda (202-6910)

Meets @ **5pm** on Thursdays at the home of Amelia (David is the leader) (140-5712)

WE ARE ON THE WEB:  
[www.destinocristiano.com](http://www.destinocristiano.com)



Weekly sermons can be heard on our website @ <http://destinocristiano.com/index.php/sermon/the-refiners-fire/>

### **PRAYER REQUESTS & SUPPORT**

Thank you all for your continued prayers

### **Answered Prayers:**

Worship Team members and Children's Church Workers have arrived!

**HOW TO SUPPORT THE CHURCH**  
For tax deductible donations, please send donations through Joy Christian Fellowship (541-779-7029).

You can also use PayPal, or contact us at

EMAIL: [churchinlapaz@gmail.com](mailto:churchinlapaz@gmail.com)