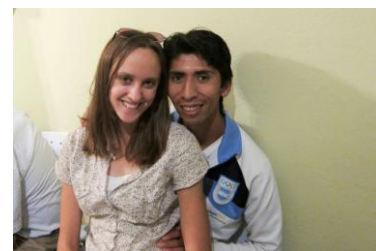


Laura Kyte (de Gonzalez)
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Ready for the next chapter

We are on the move!

It's goodbye to the city that never sleeps and "HOLA" to the town where you are, quite simply, out of place if you don't respect your daily "siesta"!

In February, I wrote that we were in the process of deciding where exactly we would be heading to, and since then, the Lord has led us to want to base ourselves in **Cachi** rather than the city of Salta, and Fabio's projects in particular are also a lot more defined. We give thanks to God for this and for your prayers which have sustained us!

Coach Fabio, who has already travelled up to Cachi (whilst I remain in Buenos Aires waiting for my parents; please pray for their safe arrival and time in Argentina!) is now in charge of **2 groups**:

- a group of **race-walkers**, part of the Salta's veteran athletics association, and therefore based in the city. Fabio will put together their training plans and travel from Cachi to Salta twice a month to supervise training. We particularly give thanks for **AR** who has been very proactive in making this possible, and please join us in praying for her. Ana is a believer and as well as overseeing her sporting progress, Fabio and I would love to **share more of Jesus Christ's love** with her, so that her faith may grow and she may know God through her sport.

- a group of **young athletes in Cachi**- SF, CD, PC and JC- who were being coached

at a distance. Having spoken to the former coaches, all agreed that Fabio would now oversee the group. Again, we **give thanks** to the Lord for this wonderful opportunity, where our overarching desire is to show God's love through building relationships built on trust and honesty between athlete and coach, as well as training in a way that places emphasis on **values** rather than solely on results (e.g. discipline, effort, self-control, perseverance) and being concerned by the **"whole" athlete** and their well-being (school, family, pressures, motivation etc.) and in this way, try to avoid cultivating an

identity built exclusively on sport and sporting achievements.

Please pray for **wisdom and discernment** as we, and especially Fabio, depend on God's strength to be good teachers, listeners and role models for those in Salta and Cachi in what we say and do, and how we do it! One of my favourite songs sums this up:

♪, ♪ *May the words I say and the things I do make my lifesong sing and bring a smile to You; let my lifesong sing to You*♪, ♪

During the last month or so, I have tried to make the most of every opportunity, so that I, at least, might "finish well" here in Buenos Aires; although God's mighty work will continue and so must our **prayers** for those with whom we have shared our lives and faith. One such opportunity came about thanks to the new weekly **small groups** that began in "El Madero" in March. At the beginning of April, our group's meeting fell on a bank holiday, a good chance to invite those normally busy at work in the week. Some names came into my heart and mind and I was delighted- and surprised!- that **LZ** came along. Please pray that God would use what was shared during that time to bring her closer to Him.

I thank God for opportunities to **encourage** some athletes competing in the recent South American Games two of whom had fantastic races; **MP**, who I mentioned was in Cachi last January, and **MB** (800m runner). I



CD, left, and SF in Dec 2013



AR in action during a recent competition in Salta.

was also in contact with *a Bolivian steeplechaser* who had competed in Buenos Aires back in September and with Argentine heptathlete, *AZ*, one of the favourites for the title but who fell in the first event of seven (100m hurdles) and had to withdraw. I often see her at the track although hadn't had much contact, but I sent her a message of encouragement and when I saw her recently, she thanked me saying how much she appreciated it. It can be really important to show you care about an athlete when things don't go to plan.



MP thrilled with claiming bronze in the 5000m; MB celebrates silver in style; AZ in better times, of which there are no doubt more to come.

My own *sport* has, overall, continued to progress well, despite a “bittersweet” March; two “bitter” challenges to my health- upset stomach and bout of flu- but two “sweet” comebacks- a personal best in an 8km road race and a good return to pre-virus form.

After the 8km race we were invited to lunch with the organisers, during which there were several *conversations* about what I was doing in Argentina, thus being able to share something of the connection between faith and sport. Fellow competitor *NE*, who I got to know better in Cachi along with MP, commented (without me asking) that the magnet and leaflet I had given her (the gospel in sporting terms) inspired and encouraged her. I look forward to more chats with *NE*, despite our move; she has already told me she will be going to Cachi in August to prepare a half marathon, please pray that God would already be at work in her heart, and in mine, so that I may continue to share my faith boldly!



Enjoying God's blessings, with NE (left)

As we say goodbye to Buenos Aires, please pray for *LC*, who I have been supporting through a difficult time of *separation* from her husband. She has been coming to “El Madero” and I am now trying to put her in contact with a *Christian community* nearer to where she is, who- along with friends from “El Madero”- will be able to keep supporting her.

We *give thanks* to God for “El Madero” which has been a wonderful source of *friendship, support and spiritual growth*. We will greatly miss our Madero family but we know that true friendships survive across the miles thanks to Jesus Christ. We were surprised and delighted to receive a photo collage summarising our time there. Please pray that God would continue to *grow and encourage* our brothers and sisters as we move on to a new spiritual family in Salta and Cachi.



It all started so tenderly...next thing I know I was being hauled out!!

As always, MUCHAS GRACIAS for adventuring with us; may this journey bring a blessing to us all!