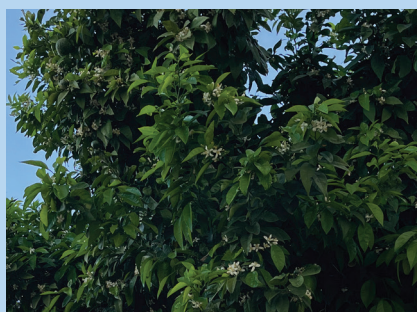


Pictures are of me and Mercedes at the beach and the sweet smelling orange trees,



Creator and Sustainer

It is hard to believe that it is already April! Spring has definitely sprung here in southern Spain. The weather is warming up and the trees are blooming. There are many orange trees planted around the historic part of the city, and as I walk to and from Tharsis, their blooms smell like perfume! Our God is an amazing Creator.

This past week I especially enjoyed working with the refugee woman from Afghanistan. She was reserved and timid the first day we worked together. We smiled at each other but I could see in her eyes sadness, hurt, and a sense of being unsure. As the days went by she began to feel at ease and express more despite the limited shared language. We laughed together and I encouraged her for the effort and the progress that she was making. I brought in sand for her to practice writing letters and she LOVED that. On Thursday she pulled out her phone and recorded a video of us pointing to the vowel letters and saying the sounds. She said that she would study the video at home - every teacher's dream! Then to my surprise she opened up SnapChat and took a selfie of the two of us to show her family. :-) I was very honored!

I had a moment on Thursday as I sat with this dear lady on my left and on my right was a refugee lady from Sudan where I thought, "What a gift it is to show the love of Jesus to these women. On the outside we look very different - they are wearing head scarves and I am not, we have different colored skin, we have had different life experiences, yet we are each dearly loved and valued by our Creator." Then the Sudanese woman's baby began to cry and I got to



The ladies hard at work.



rock the little one on my hip as I continued working with the ladies - that filled my heart even more!

PRAISE AND PRAYER ITEMS:

- * Praise God for opportunities to build relationships and to show the love of Jesus to those around me. I am thankful that I can use English, teaching, etc to serve and love people in practical ways. I was blessed to spend time on Saturday with Mercedes, the Spanish teacher from Tharsis! Please pray that the Lord would draw many unto Himself.
- * Praise God for the ability to connect with several of my Saharawi friends over audio messages this week. They have not been available for visits since they are doing Ramadan but we have continued in contact. Please pray that I could see them soon and that we could have spiritual conversations in this time where there is heightened spiritual devotion.
- * Please pray for the Easter activities that we will have at the church this week on Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Pray that the Lord is glorified in all things!
- * Please begin praying for the end of April - our Spanish team will have some important meetings with our Unit Leader who is based in the US and several of us will attend a conference for those who work with the Saharawi people. May the Lord use these times to advance His Kingdom work.