

Day 4 Reflection

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When you're at home and you need a pick me up from a long day you grab a nice warm cup of coffee. When you're in Belize you get a choli.

A choli is a frozen coffee treat that is perfect after a long day of VBS or construction. Because of some very generous donations we had enough money to get all of the Belizean youth one, also.

I got the honor of running up and down the stairs of the coffee shop 6 times to bring all 30 grateful teenagers a choli. Although I was absolutely exhausted and drenched even

more in sweat (if that's even possible, haha), the smiles on their faces made the trips up and down the stairs well worth it.

This trip has been full of "well worth it's"!

As this is my third time, I knew that the heat and the bugs were going to be tough, but it doesn't even cross my mind for the full 3 hours of VBS. The kids make it well worth it.

On Tuesday morning, we had many more kids than the day before. Although that's absolutely amazing, we did not have enough chairs for all the children to sit while we were making crafts. A precious 3-year-old girl who didn't get a chair turned to me and said, "I want to sit down." I apologized and explained that we

didn't have enough chairs for her to sit, but she just turned to me again and said "I want sit down."

I asked if she wanted to sit on the floor, fully expecting her to hate the idea so she didn't dirty her cute little dress, but instead she gave me the biggest smile and said, "Yeah!" We sat on the floor together and made the cutest paper-plate frog. We made frog noises and stuck out our tongues and had so much fun.

I honestly didn't want the 30-minute rotation to end, because I could sit on that dirty ground all day and color with her. It was that fun! For us both, sitting on the ground was well worth being able to comfortably color and hang out together.

On Monday night, our devotion from Meredith and Hagan was about giving and receiving. They talked about how to receive much you must give much. We discussed 2 Corinthians 9:7 and Luke 6:38 – both great verses to think about on a mission trip.

Every Belize trip I have been on, I went to serve and felt as if I came back with much more than I gave. I can already tell that this year is no different. Each day I have put all of my energy into the day and tried my best to work and play as hard as I can. It has been well worth it when I come back to the hotel and not think about how tired or worn out I was. Instead, I would think about how joyful I was.

Just like the little girl coloring on the floor. I have the biggest smile on my face thinking about how much fun I had during the day. I feel rejuvenated, I feel loved, I feel cared about, and I feel God in my heart here in Belize.