



EXPLORING SRI LANKA



GETTING AROUND IN TUK TUKS



BATHING AN ELEPHANT IN THE RIVER!

ĀYUBŌVAN!



Greetings from Sri Lanka

Āyubōvan! A very happy hello from Sri Lanka. I have completed my first month here and I am so excited to share with you what has been happening so far. For the first three weeks, myself and 14 other young women attended classes that helped prepare us for the work that we are doing now and for the next 4 weeks we will be here. We have been getting acquainted with Sri Lanka and the people here. It has been an adventure and I have enjoyed every minute of it!

Āyubōvan is a greeting used to say hello and goodbye and means *may you have long life.*

About Sri Lanka

I am in awe of the lovely people of Sri Lanka. Sri Lanka is called "The Pearl of the Indian Ocean" and it is definitely living up to its name. The hospitality here is unmatched by anything I have experienced before and the people are so kind and warm. I feel at home even though I'm half way across the world! I have been overwhelmed by the kindness of the people here and it has made me very excited to give back!

Training



Every person that has come here and spent time teaching us has been absolutely top notch, there's just not enough I can say to express how wonderful everyone has been. I am privileged to have had the opportunity to learn from such amazing leaders who shared from their own experiences and

poured into us for those three weeks and I am going forward changed, added to and ready to go!

Team



I am here in Sri Lanka with 14 amazing young women who have made my time here so far the absolute best it can be. I love working with each of them and it has been so encouraging to be a part of a group that is passionate and focused. During training, it became clear that

each of us was handpicked to be on this trip together and I couldn't be more thankful for each of them. Aside from my peers, the leaders here are absolutely incredible; they are hardworking, inspiring, passionate, and invested in everything they do and everyone they connect with. They have really invested in us and are committed to teaching us throughout our time here.

Getting involved in Sri Lanka



On a day off in Colombo, we met a group of girls who just got out of school



This was a lot of firsts: our first away service in Sri Lanka, my first time being MC and Brother Angelo's first time interpreting!



Preparing for the health fair in Mount Lavinia.

Touring



Now that our training is completed, we have started our practicals and we are getting ready to begin touring the island, working hard along the way. We have already helped with several medical health fairs that have helped educate the people here and connect them with local resources. Open evangelism is not something we are able to do in Sri Lanka so our work here looks a little different. We have had several unique opportunities for one on one evangelism through different connections we have made with people here and as we go throughout the Island we will be working with the churches here, serving in any way we can and doing many of the

services. in addition to church work, we are going to be helping with building projects, cleaning projects, visiting church members in remote locations as a help and encouragement to them, and putting our hands to use wherever we have the opportunity.

Events



Visiting the elephant orphanage in Pinnawala was so much fun! It was amazing to see the elephants run to the water because they hardly make any noise as they rush by!

I celebrated my 24th birthday on the last day of classes and everyone surprised



We went to a coffee shop in Colombo where they have live music and after a couple of songs, the group that was singing asked a few girls to join in. We mentioned that we might only know Christian songs and they became excited and shared with us that they are all worship leaders. We sang several songs with them and the presence of God came into that coffee shop in a beautiful way. They asked us to pray with them and we ministered to each other afterward, it was such a neat experience! Open evangelism is not something we can do here but God has opened several unique doors like this for us along the way.

Our hotel staff at The Palms has been amazing! We have connected with several of them while we were here for training and they decided to throw us a dinner party one of the nights we were staying there. It was a very kind gesture and it showed us that we are making an impact even if we aren't able to be as direct as we normally are.



Thank You!

I want to say a huge thank you, *bohoma stūtiyi*, to all of my supporters. I could not be here doing what I am doing without you! All of your donations and prayers mean so much to me and I am thankful for each and every one of you, *stūtiyi!*