

5/21/2009, AUEA

Today was filled with a lot of hard work, and home visits. I started on construction first. It meant hours of mixing cement, and throwing it at the wall. After that was through we had a ridiculously tasty lunch, and played with the kids for a while. After, me and my group went on home visits, and for the first time in my life, AIDS felt so real. We visited a man George, and his mother. George lives with his children and his mother lives and has AIDS since 1990. George said he has a sharp pain in his chest when he coughs. He also said that when he does eat, he vomits it all up, this broke my heart, but not as much as the next person. We entered the home of a woman and her daughter lay on a bed naked, and dying. I have never personally been this close to death in my life. It hurt to sit there and see that. She was curled up in a ball basically, a vomit bucket below her, and seeing all the pain, it brought me to tears after a prayer we left. We headed to one last house. This one consisted of a woman with 12 children. This was not as sad. We brought joy and laughter in her and her family, and that was enough for me! T.A.P.P. is an amazing program one which I am excited to be involved in next year. I want to end with a line from a song that has change me. It's simply: "Sweetly broken, holy surrender," this is when God started to work in my life. This is when my life began to change. Let God break you, let God use you. Amen.

-Chris Kaz