



Natacha's Story

Natacha Ramos Glorvigen came to Christ at age 14. She spent most of her childhood believing that the Christian faith of her family distinguished her from her classmates and friends only because she was not Roman Catholic.

At 18, Natacha had the opportunity to teach the Word of God to the youth group at her home church in Venezuela. As she served there, she began to see God transform her life for a bigger purpose. Even then, Natacha could not have envisioned the story God was writing for her.

Natacha's gift for teaching was obvious to church leadership from the very beginning. She was given more opportunities to speak to her youth group and church community, and she thrived in the new role. She started writing blogs and making YouTube videos to guide others through the Word of God.

She was not far into her teaching journey when she realized that she needed further training if she was to teach well. She remembers thinking, "I need training. I'm pouring all this out, but there is no one pouring into me." She began to pursue opportunities to learn. She sought training online, and at her father's urging she began to take English classes. Natacha tried studying the Scriptures through an online program, but the training that was accessible to her was not at the level that she felt she needed.

Driving home from church one day with her pastor, Natacha mentioned her desire to receive training from a high-quality, accredited school. He kindly pointed out, "That's not here." The training Natacha wanted was not available in Venezuela. Though she had never planned on leaving her family, friends, and church community in Venezuela, this pivotal conversation led Natacha to apply to Dallas Theological Seminary, a school she came to know about by listening to sermons by Andy Stanley.

When Natacha applied to DTS, she was making more money than both her parents—but that was still only \$180 a month. Her needs were significant. As she says, she "needed everything." She explains, "my situation did not allow me to [afford seminary]. I was more than happy to work for it and go the extra mile, but it just wasn't possible."





But, as we know, with God all things are possible. In 2017, Natacha was accepted to DTS, and in 2018 she received an email from the Financial Aid Department: she would be receiving much-needed scholarship funding. “My life changed that second. My scholarship came with tuition, health insurance, living expenses for a whole year, and the opportunity to work on campus.” Thus began Natacha’s journey to the United States and to the campus of DTS.

When the long-distance move or the challenging classes seemed overwhelming, Natacha thought of the scholarship donors who provided her a way forward. “Just the thought of the donors kept me going. That thought didn’t let me quit at all, because I knew, “This is not just me anymore. This is me, working hard to honor what they are doing.” She adds, “I never had that kind of support before. Before it was just me and the Lord, but now it’s *us*. We are doing this together.”

Natacha completed her final class at DTS in August 2022. She says her character was shaped during her time at DTS: “I’m not only a person who knows more than when I first came—I’m a different type of person, a person who better fits into the role of what God has put on my heart to do.” During her time at the seminary, she met her husband, Josh, who is also pursuing a Master of Theology degree. Josh will continue his studies while Natacha begins her ministry.

Her plan is to return to South America with Josh to teach the Word of God. She will begin creating resources in Spanish. She hopes that one day other aspiring seminary students in South America will discover that the training they are seeking is “here,” in South America. Natacha started with a hunger for Scripture but a scarcity of good training. She is returning to South America with the hope of bringing others the quality training she once craved but lacked.

Generous donors allowed Natacha’s dream to come true. They were influential in providing a young Venezuelan Christian with the quality training she wanted and needed. They provided Natacha with the resources and inspiration needed for pressing forward through difficult times. If not for the generosity of those donors, Natacha couldn’t have come to DTS and received this training. Soon, not only Natacha but also many others in South America will have the opportunity to study God’s Word and prepare themselves to serve others.