

### Thanksgiving

A specific memory from this year that brings me joy or comfort is meeting Eric Adams and Maria Luisa Piraquive because they were the two people I never expected to meet plus they were the two people I looked up to.

I chose this memory because it was the time where I felt really closer to God than at any time in my life and because at that time I was questioning my religion. I remember when I first got outta bed I looked through my window to see heavy rain pouring outside. It was supposed to be raining and flooding the roads. My mom wasn't gonna go until my Aunt convinced her it was gonna be okay. Me and my little sister, little brother and older brother got ready to go to the church tour. We were gonna see the founder of our church and all of our churches in New York and New Jersey were gonna be in the same room listening to our priest talk about God. When we hit the road we had tons of traffic and got lost cause some roads were closed because some cars had crashed on the highways. It took us like three hours to arrive at the stadium and thirty minutes to find a parking spot. We were getting drenched when we arrived and we parked very far away. Once we arrived we found out that they pushed the time backwards an hour because of the rain. We stayed outside for a while until they let us in. After we entered we stayed waiting inside our seats, After a couple minutes Maria Luisa came out and hundreds of people started crying and waving this white napkin meaning welcome. They played a video of all our churches saying welcome. Then the special guest came, Eric Adams. He did a whole speech of him being thankful for her and that somehow touched my heart in a special way. Maria Luisa Piraquive was giving a testimony about God. I didn't know why I felt so full inside and happy to be there but after the testimony ended I cried because I've never experienced this feeling and I couldn't really express what I was feeling. As she was walking onto the carpet to leave she waved at me and signed one of my bibles and she held my hand afterwards. I started to cry even more because it was a dream come true. Before I was exiting the building I saw her talking to some guards so me and my little sister went up to her and I asked her if she could pray for me because at that time I was struggling with myself, and she did but she also talked to God for me and told me some special things I can't say

because you're supposed to keep it for yourself. After that I felt like God was with me the whole trip.

In conclusion this was my special memory when I felt comfort and joy. I'm very thankful I was one of the people to have this opportunity because at first My mom or I didn't know I had a chance to go cause Im still a kid and kids weren't supposed to go until I prayed that night and I guess God listened to me and the priest said i could plus the tickets I needed to enter were all gone already.

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