

MISSIONARIES
To



June 5, 2020

Dear Praying Friends,

Job's faith was an integral part of his integrity. "Without faith, it is impossible to please God." Yet the duration, intensity, and number of his trials caused him to doubt. When his focus changed from God/faith to himself/experience, he began to complain. But, in the end, when God confronted him, he again trusted in the God Who always does what is right. And then, God removed Job's "captivity." Just like with Job, the devil would love to use trials to attack our faith in God. Though we do not understand why, may we never lose our faith in God. The answer to the trials isn't knowing why or having the power to change them. It is trusting the All-powerful and All-knowing God Who can. Don't get frustrated. Don't doubt. Just trust Him.

Ministering Through the Church

These past few months have made ministry here more complicated with the virus. But people don't stop needing help. On March 22nd, Bolivia declared a nationwide quarantine. For most of the time, only one person has been allowed out just to buy the food for the family. Obviously, in-person church services are not allowed. Although others have been having virtual services (Facebook, etc.) most of our people do not have that ability. So we have been keeping in contact through phone calls, and the occasional visit in passing, when allowed. Please pray that the believers would remain faithful to God in this time and not fall away. We are hopeful that services can restart June 15th or the beginning of July. Please continue to pray for **Camilo** and **Julieta** (89 and 84 years old). They both went to Santa Cruz because of health conditions, and they are staying with their son, Roberto. Praise the Lord that they are both doing well physically. But they are unable to come home to the valleys because of the quarantine. The city that their son lives in is the epicenter of virus cases in the country. And obviously their age and health are problems. Please pray for God's protection of their health, and that, if it His will, they would be able to come back home soon. Please pray for their teenage son **Diego**, who has been living on his own since they left, and has not been living for the Lord. Please pray that God would get his attention and bring him back to Himself. Please pray for **Edilberto, Anastacio** and his **kids**, and **Jose Carlos** to remain close to God during this time. Please pray for **Sabina, Emiliano, Camila**, and **Pedro** to come back to God. Please pray for **Ulysa, Pati, Matias**, and **Mateo** (Sabina's kids and grandkids) to trust Christ as their Savior. Pray that God would open the hearts of **Miguel, Dener, Yanet, Soledad, 2 different Rosas, Elena, Alysa, Solomon, Julie, Marci** (Pedro's wife), **Saida**, etc. Please pray for **Susana**, a former member now living in Santa Cruz, as she cares for her husband **Marcos**, who has bone cancer. Because of the cost of treatment, and the quarantine, they are only treating his symptoms and trying to keep him as healthy as possible. Susana also coordinates the care for her widowed mother (**Uber**) and her brother (**Daniel**) here in Valle Abajo. We do what we can to help. Also, her son (also **Marcos**) is looking for work, and Marco's wife (**Leicy**) has health problems.

Hurting People

Bolivia has been through so much recently, with the election fraud, the nationwide riots, and now the virus. As things calm down in the U.S. and Europe, South America is

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getting worse. We pray that God would use this suffering to open up hearts to Jesus and His salvation. We pray, as Paul did, for freedom to share the gospel with those who are dying. Another example of hurting people is the recent death of one of our neighbors, **Marci**. I had the privilege of witnessing to her, and she was receptive. But she didn't trust Christ at that time. She left and went to Santa Cruz. We found out later that it was for cancer. She came back a month or two ago as there wasn't anything else they could do. Sabina, one of her friends, let me know that before she died she had accepted Christ as Savior. We pray for wisdom in reaching her family, her husband **Marcial**, her sons **Jose** and **Nando**, her husband's siblings (our neighbors) **Luz**, **Rosa**, **Solomon**, etc., **Marci's mother** and **sisters** (who live in nearby villages). They know us, and we have spoken with them before. Please pray for the right words to reach them in their pain with the hope of the gospel.

Family Visit

It was a wonderful time with my parents and younger brother visiting here in Bolivia. It just happened to go a little longer than expected. They arrived on March 13th and intended to leave March 27th. But the quarantine on the 22nd changed all that. They stayed over 2 months, as international flights kept getting cancelled. God provided a repatriation flight between Bolivia and the U.S. for them to get home. While they were here, my mother befriended several of the ladies in the village. And the day before they left, she was able to lead Cristina, Luz, Mirta, Lidia, and Neli to the Lord. We will be following up on these ladies to make sure, and trying to disciple them. Please pray for wisdom and open hearts in speaking to them.

Teaching in the Bible Institute (2nd semester)

My teaching of the book of Job 2nd semester in the Bible Institute in Vallegrande has been postponed until July. Please pray for freedom to travel there and wisdom to properly teach His Word to the students.

Political Situation

The virus has also complicated the political situation in the country, as people are fighting over when to have the elections, and using what is happening against their opposition. Please pray that there would be peace among the politicians, and that the right leader would win the elections.

In Christ,

Joshua, Jennifer, Rachel, Audrey, Daniel, and Katherine Morris