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June 12, 2018

Dear Praying Friends,

“I have planted, Apollos watered; but God gave the increase.” (I Cor. 3:6) “Moreover it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful.” (I Cor. 4:2) Living in an agricultural society here in the valleys, we are reminded of the truth of sowing and reaping. But even after all the work is done, only God can give the increase. May we be faithful in doing our part, yet always trusting Him to give the increase.

### Church Growth

Because of the culture, it takes a bit longer for people to open up. But God has graciously given us some encouraging fruit. First, there is Yoselin, the 23 year old studying to be a teacher (mentioned in our last letter). Please continue to pray for her unsaved Catholic parents, that her Dad would be open to her coming to the services, and that we would be able to disciple her properly. (She has been overwhelmed with school to start yet.) Second, there is Pedro (also mentioned last prayer letter), who came to us struggling with drinking. After speaking with him, he appears to have understood and accepted Christ as Savior. I have tried to build a relationship with him, letting him cut my hair, comparing prices for adobes (mud bricks) that he makes, visiting his house, etc. Third, there is Marci, Pedro’s wife, whom I got to meet while visiting their house. She is Catholic, but friendly and open to listening. Please pray that Marci would trust Christ as Savior, that Pedro and Marci would be faithful in coming to services, and that Pedro would settle on a time to meet for discipleship. Fourth, there is Maria and her adult daughter Marisol. She is an elderly Christian lady whose husband passed away about a year ago. So she moved back from the state capital of Santa Cruz to the village of Valle Abajo. Please pray for her health, and for her adult daughter who still has to live at home. Fifth, there is Wilson, Litsi, and their three little girls. They are coming from a sister church in Vallegrande (about 2-3 hours away) to work at a chicken farm nearby. Please pray that they will faithfully attend services, that we can get to know them, and that we would know how to help them to grow spiritually. If all of them come, that makes 9 new people (10 if Marci comes). In addition, God has recently brought people across my path to hopefully reach with the Gospel, with several of them struggling with drinking. Maybe God will open up that avenue of ministry. God wants us to love all people to Him, not just the “acceptable” ones. Please pray that we might love the “outcasts,” and even those who don’t like us, to Him.

### Ministering in the Local School

We are still trying to minister in the local school. I sub for teachers when they need it. And my three oldest kids go to school there 2-3 days a week, in addition to homeschooling with their Mom. We have a presence there, the kids know us, and the community knows that we care for their children. But with the school year half over, we still

haven't been able to teach English and other classes as before. Please pray for wisdom in how to approach them, for God to open up the hearts of those in charge, and for us to be able to use the relationships with the kids, parents, and teachers to reach them with the Gospel.

#### **Ministering to Kids/Teens**

Every Sunday at 3:30, we have our kids club, Hora Feliz. We are excited as several newer kids have been coming. And usually, after each class, the kids come to our house to play. So we are building relationships with them. But there is opposition, as the local Catholic catechist holds a class about the same time, with several of the kids who normally come attending there to have first communion, etc. Please pray that we would not lose contact with these kids, but reach them with the Gospel. We will be helping with another kids club Saturdays at 2 while our co-workers, the Sturgeon's, are on furlough. Also, every other Saturday evening, we have a combined church teen meeting. The two-fold goal is that they hear God's Word, and that they have good Christian friends/influences. Thankfully, several teens that normally don't come to regular services do come to these special services. And periodically, some of the teens do come to regular services or to our house to visit. Please pray that we might build relationships with them and reach them for the Gospel.

#### **Bible Conferences in Puerto Limon**

We just attended two Bible conferences in Puerto Limon. The first one, during Easter, was about "The Joy of the Lord." And the second one, last week, was about "A Happy Home." Both conferences went very well, with the Gospel being preached and believers growing in the Lord. It was very encouraging to see the believers showing growth by taking part in the different ministries, and not just attending the services. Friday night was an open air meeting, with many of the village attending and hearing the Gospel, including one of the teens from our village (Carlos), who was moved about what he heard. Please pray that Satan would not remove the seed planted in all their hearts, and that they would all accept Christ as Savior.

#### **Family Needs/Decisions**

We want to thank all those who gave so that we might repair our vehicle. It truly is a blessing here in the backcountry. Also, we are very close to possibly buying and fixing up the house/property that we live in. Please pray that God would give us wisdom what to do and what price to offer, and that we would have the resources for whatever God would have us to do. We thank all of you once again for all your loving prayer and financial support. And we pray that God would bless you all greatly, "good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over" for all that you do for us.

In Christ,

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