

Here's a boy with five small barley loaves and two small fish, but how far will they go among so many? John 6:9

Prayer Requests

This month we ask our Partners to be in prayer with us regarding:

- The health of our team as we battle the common cold and pass it back and forth
- Jeffry and Deisy as they consider eternity
- The 3 new OSA students as they settle in
- Teamwork
- Agustin and Julio as they battle temptation
- Our Bible study groups on Tuesdays and Wednesdays
- Carmen and her family



September's Thought...

Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life, but whoever rejects the Son will not see life, for God's wrath remains on him.

John 3:36

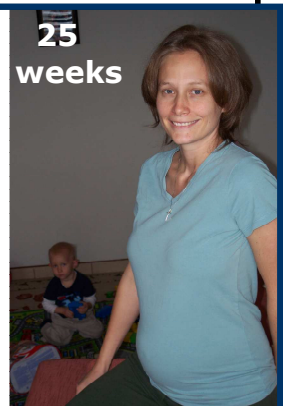
A Reminder of Our Time

A few weeks ago we were walking down the hill and came across a man sprawled on the street. He wasn't responding to any words or stirring when nudged. We weren't sure what to do other than pray. We felt somewhat paralyzed ourselves because, even though we've been here over a year, there are still many unknowns to us. How can we help? Who do we call? What if the family has to pay for the police response? Will the police even come? Is it better to find his family so they can take him in for medical attention? There were a lot of questions in our minds as we tried to wake the man. Many of our neighbors say it's better not to even call the police because they don't come or come hours later. We quickly looked for help on the street, hoping someone recognized the man and knew his condition. A neighbor staring from his doorway signaled that he was drunk. Then a lady walked by who knew him and helped us prop him up against a wall where he was able to signal that he wanted some water. He opened his eyes a little and the lady helped him drink. We then prayed for him and left him with his neighbor.

The next day in our Bible study down the block I found out that he had died. I was stunned. Was it my fault? Was it because I didn't do more? I felt a huge weight of guilt upon my shoulders and a need to seek forgiveness. We discussed it in the group and the fact that we never know when our time will come. 'Where will you go when you die?' was the question I asked of everyone. I was reminded of the story Jesus told of the rich man who wanted to build bigger barns to store his grain. Then that very night God demanded his life of him. Just as quickly we can leave this earth. In another recent Bible study we looked at the place of eternal punishment. One lady abruptly walked out of the study, and many had questions about eternity. There are hard hearts here. Generations of idolatry and religious confusion distance people from the Truth. Please pray that Scripture would continue to speak to their hearts and that souls would be won for the Lord. It's been difficult. Our friend, Tomas, said he prayed for two years straight as he invited people into his home to share the Gospel. For two years just one person came. 'But that one person is a soul,' he said. That's right, Tomas, and *there is rejoicing in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents*. Please pray that angels would have many occasions to rejoice.

Heading for the Third Trimester!

Jess is 25 weeks this week. We are blessed that we have had a non-eventful pregnancy after we got past a rough patch in the beginning. Joshua is learning about the baby and seems to be preparing well. Thanks for you prayers!



Upcoming Events

September 3rd

- Meeting with OB nurse to plan the birthing class

September 4th – 6th

- Ruth and Daniel to visit Collique and OSA staff

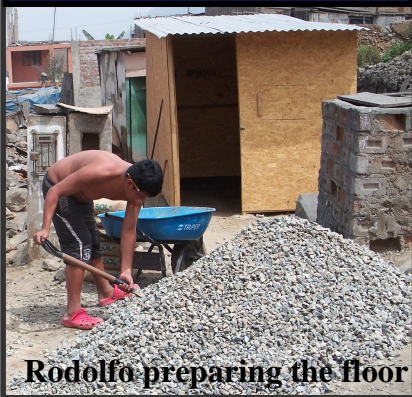
September 14th -16th

- CBF virtual meeting with our Latin Amer-Caribbean team

September 25th

- September birthday celebrations

Family Outing Day-
Sept 27th or Oct 4th



Rodolfo preparing the floor

Partners in Ministry:

- Operación San Andrés
www.operacionsanandres.org
- South Main Baptist Church
www.smbc.org
- Tallowood Baptist Church
www.tallowood.org
- Cooperative Baptist Fellowship
www.thefellowship.info
- Buckner International
www.buckner.org

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Community Outreach Program – Childbirth Class

I (Jess) am proud to announce that God has opened a new door for us to do a childbirth class co-facilitated with the Community Health Center of Collique (*La Posta Médica*). I will be assisting the local nurse with the birthing class for the community of Collique. The class at the Health Center had been discontinued for various reasons just at the time that God brought this calling back on my heart. We plan to start the classes in October of this year. The class will cover all topics of prenatal care, childbirth, postnatal care and care of the new baby, as well as spiritual development along the way for these new moms. I am very excited that the Lord has brought this opportunity to OSA. It provides another opportunity to reach out to families that aren't part of our program. I look forward to serving these mothers, listening to them, and supporting them in anyway I can. I want to aid in being the salt and light to their lives. I want to teach them that each child is a blessing from God no matter what the circumstances are. Some of these mothers' pregnancies are unwanted or unexpected which brings much more stress, disappointment and discouragement. We will be promoting this program throughout the month of September. It will be great to see what God does through this program. Please pray that it will be effective in bettering maternal care and that there will be a good attendance. To God be ALL the glory!
Behold, children are a heritage from the LORD, the fruit of the womb a reward. Psalm 127:3

'It did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock'

We began construction on a new home for a family in Collique this month. Carmen is a lady with serious mental health problems. She cannot take care of herself so her daughter, Cecilia, looks after her all day. Cecilia also has to watch over her own two year old son, Ruben. This prevents Cecilia from being able to work or study during the day. They depend on Carmen's husband, Julio, to bring home enough money to feed the family and pay for Carmen's medication. Their older son, Rodolfo, works, but he has a family of his own to provide for so there are days when they eat just one meal, and a meager one at that. As we were tearing down part of the existing structure, Rodolfo and Cecilia told me that they had grown up there. For 20 years they have lived without running water or sewer. A particularly large boulder protruded from the ground and Rodolfo remembered when Cecilia used to try to get out of bed on her own as a child and fall upon that rock. As it became clear that part of their new home would rest on that same rock, I shared what Jesus had said about building upon a rock. If we hear his words and live by them, we will be building our family and personal foundation upon His rock. Just like their house will be more stable, so will they as they follow Jesus. Every morning that we work we read Scripture together and pray. As we move forward in the construction I see the joy and excitement in the family's faces as they imagine having 4 walls without holes and a floor that isn't dirt. Please pray for them to feel God's love for them in this home and to realize the importance of building upon His rock.

