

Bennetts On Mission: Life in Costa Rica



Thank you all for your prayers this last year. Now that Sherry and I have successfully finished our language training we will be heading to Mexico next week. We give glory to God for blessing both of us with the score of Advanced Mid Basic on our final Spanish oral exam.

Also in answer to your prayers, we have recently received our long awaited Mexican Visas...Praise the Lord! We are currently in the



process of trying to pack all we possess into and two carry-ons and four suitcases weighing less than 50 lbs each. We will be flying out of San Jose, Costa Rica and arriving in Mexico City on the 10th of December. The plan is to spend a few days in the capital completing our visa paperwork, picking up our vehicle, and receiving an initial orientation to the country of Mexico. Sherry and I hope to be in our placement city, Puebla, Mexico, by Saturday the 13th of December. How amazing it is to contemplate God's faithfulness during this time. It was more than 5 years ago that we first accepted and began to



pursue God's calling on our lives to foreign missions and now we are heading to Mexico.

Initially, we will stay in a furnished university apartment. This will give us a month or so to look for a rental house in our new city. Meanwhile, we will be learning to navigate around our new city as well as identify essential establishments such as grocery stores, post offices, markets and of course, the local mouth-watering taco stand.

Please continue to pray for us as we make this transition. Pray that we will be sensitive to God's direction when choosing a house and a neighborhood to begin our ministry. As always, we appreciate all of you and your prayers so very much. Thank you, especially during this season, for your support of us through the Lottie Moon Mission Offering. Your giving is the reason that we are able to proclaim the Gospel in Mexico.

Praise Offerings:

- Pascual accepted Jesus as his Savior
- Our Mexican visas arrived
- Lifelong friendships with nationals and fellow missionaries
- Continued opportunities and the boldness to share the Gospel
- A successful semester & good scores on our Spanish exit exam
- The faithful prayers of you, our prayer supporters

Prayer Requests:

- Pray for the new Bible study in the home of Pascual & Jasmina
- Pray for the new leaders of the Bible studies
- Pray that new people will be drawn to Jesus & the Bible studies
- Pray for us as we look for a house and adapt to life in Mexico
- Pray for the future work in the city of Puebla, Mexico
- Pray for the Lottie Moon Mission Drive and the IMB

A Final Costa Rican Ministry Update

I am reminded of the great quote in Shakespearean Literature that says, "Parting is such sweet sorrow." As we have begun to say goodbye, we have been so vividly reminded of the relationships God has allowed us to form here in Costa Rica. We are not only leaving behind many great missionary friends, but numerous God-given national friends whom we have poured much of our lives into over the last year or so. It is miraculous to see what God has done with two people who originally spoke little Spanish and knew very little about mission work. During this time, God has started three home Bible studies and reached the hearts of numerous people with His Gospel message.



Within the last couple of weeks, Pascual, a Nicaraguan man whom you have been praying for, accepted Jesus Christ as his Savior. Please, rejoice with us as we welcome him into the Family of God and praise the Lord for his



salvation!!! Please pray for him as he continues to grow in his walk with the Lord as well as the new Bible study in his home. Also, continue to pray for those missionaries here that will be assuming the leadership of these Bible studies. Recently Sherry and I attended a "despedida" or farewell party which was thrown by some of the people who have been attending our Bible studies. It was a great time of fellowship, well-wishing, and tears as we said goodbye to each other. One of the elderly women in the meeting stood up and tearfully shared how Sherry and I had become family, proclaiming that she considered Sherry to be her daughter and I, her son. How wonderful it is to experience how God knits lives and souls together in His



great Kingdom work.

Before the end of the evening, I took the time to encourage them from the Word of God, reminding them that they were lights of the world and cities on a hill that could not be hid. Their very houses had become places of worship where others could come to pray, sing, hear God's word, and find Jesus Christ as their



personal savior. The responsibility was now theirs to begin reaching their neighbors, friends, and family with the Gospel message of Jesus Christ. Yet, although countries and cultures apart, this is true for each of us as believers. My prayer is that each of us will be faithful to the great gift of God's grace in our lives. As we leave, please continue to pray for these new believers as well as the Bible studies in their homes.

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Finally, brothers, pray for us that the message of the Lord may spread rapidly and be honored, just as it was with you.
II Thessalonians 3:1