



## The Ackerman Family

Missionaries to Bolivia

7/1/11

Dear Family and Friends, Greetings in the name our Lord Jesus Christ.

*"If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed." John 8:36*

It is almost July 4, that time of year when we celebrate our country's freedom. And nowhere is it more obvious than here next door to the US Army's Fort Benning. While we celebrate the 4th of July, I am reminded of the freedom we have in Christ, this freedom was paid for by the blood of Jesus Christ; just as our country's freedom was paid for and kept by the blood of its soldiers. The saying "Freedom Is Not Free" is so very true. But there are at least 3 great differences between the two. (1) While our country's freedoms are dwindling, the freedom Christ offers is forever, and the maturing Christian becomes even freer from the power of sin. (2) While our country's freedoms need continuing down payments, the freedom we have in Christ required only one divine payment. (3) Our country's freedom does nothing for us after death, but our freedom in Christ guarantees life eternal in Heaven. I pray that you can, and will give thanks to God for both freedoms.

I must apologize to many of you, as I have been made aware that several of you have not received an update from us since the beginning of the year. I believe something got askew in my e-mail program when I had some work done on my computer. If you need one of our old letters from 5/23 or 3/25 or 2/11 please let me know and I will send a copy to you.

Things continue to go well with the work in San Lorenzo, the last time I talked to Pastor Arcil was last month and he had related to me that they had an outreach for the Bolivian Mothers Day. A record number of mothers, fathers, and children showed up as well as a good number of young people came to help with the program, cooking, and serving. I was told it was a very profitable evening. We feel so blessed that God has provided Pastor Arcil and Elizabeth to watch over the work in San Lorenzo. While we have enjoyed visiting our supporting churches, friends and family this furlough, we really look forward to being back in Bolivia. And that time is about upon us; we have our tickets for our Aug. 4 return.

We are currently in the Columbus, Ga. area as we wait for our oldest son's graduation. Brandon will graduate from the US Army's OSUT training on July 29. His orders are that he is to be assigned to a Stryker Unit at Fort Lewis, WA. The rumors are that his unit will be going to Afghanistan in October. While we wait for his graduation I am busy with my Bible College studies, Sheila has been translating "Stay in the Castle" into Spanish. We also have been making our final dentist and dr. appointments, ordering ministry resources for Bolivia, planning, and organizing for our return trip to Bolivia.

**Please pray:** Our final preparations to leave for Bolivia; Brandon's health, (he has been sick for several weeks now during his training), Spiritual growth for the Believers in San Lorenzo, Ricks Mother (Joann) who has COPD. Sharon and Joel are to have all of their wisdom teeth pulled next week.

**Praises:** Travel mercies, a great Mothers Day outreach in San Lorenzo, God's daily provisions.

*For His Glory, Matt. 5:16.*

*Rick & Sheila Ackerman*

### **Sending Church**

Mt. View Baptist Church  
Copper Center, AK  
(907)-822-5262

### **Mission Agency (Support)**

Baptist Pioneer Mission  
P.O. Box 5114  
Kincheloe, MI. 49788  
(906)-495-5203  
[www.baptistpioneermission.org](http://www.baptistpioneermission.org)

### **Furlough Address**

Rick & Sheila Ackerman  
5715 Hwy 85 North #911  
Crestview, Florida 32536  
717-395-3114