



## The Ackerman Family

Missionaries to Bolivia

Dear Family and Friends, Greetings in the name of the Lord Jesus!

6 of December 2009

Wow, the time has really flown these past days as we have been traveling quite a bit. In mid Nov. we found ourselves traveling to Sucre and Icla where we visited some fellow missionaries and had some great fellowship. During those travels we encountered several blockades that forced us to go to Tupiza where we met with the leadership of an Independent Baptist Church and had some more good fellowship. Fellowship is appreciated greatly in our isolated lives.

This last week we received news from our power of attorney in Santa Cruz that our permanent visas were done and we could come to Santa Cruz to start the process for our identification cards. So we quickly planned our trip and set out for Santa Cruz after lining up someone to watch the house and ministry. We spent 32 hours on the road for 2 hours worth of paperwork. Now we have to wait to get our photo which means another trip to Santa Cruz next month.

Sheila has been invited and is diligently preparing to teach at a children's camp here in Tarija the 28<sup>th</sup> -30<sup>th</sup> of Dec. I will also be preparing for teen camp (11<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> of January). We are expecting at least 300 teens. Several Baptist churches have united for this camp; we have a guest speaker coming from the States and each local Pastor will be teaching a workshop in the mornings. The subject I will be teaching is "the First Steps of a Christian" and the theme of the camp this year is "The Workshop of the Master"

The work in San Lorenzo is growing ever so slowly, but we are thankful for even this growth of core believers. What I really want to focus on is not the numbers, but that those who are faithful would grow in Christ on a solid foundation. We had started an Evangelism class several weeks back, but had to cancel several of the classes for travel purposes. However, we are home again and will restart this class the coming Thursday. We have also had an increased interest from Soledad and Yuli to finish their discipleship courses. Maybe this will be contagious with the others. Since we are in summer vacation it seems many have scattered, and others are planning to leave. Yamil is planning on going to Argentina to work for the summer, and Luis may be going to Pando to help his sister with some new land she got from the government. These would not be good changes for these two young men as they are both going to places where there are no good churches and we are very concerned for their spiritual growth. We are thankful that Martin, an elderly man, has been coming faithfully; he seems to have a desire for the Word of God.

Today is the day of the election for a new president of Bolivia, by tonight we should know for sure who it will be. I believe we will have 5 more years of the same and possibly a worse situation. I pray I am wrong.

**Please continue to pray for:** the new president of Bolivia; that the young men, Luis and Yamil would not have to leave; for those who are coming to grow in their relationship with the Lord; that we would be able to reach more adults with the Gospel and for the coming camps. Also please pray for the Salvation of Yuli and Soledad's older brother, Luis. He is 40 years old and has been told he needs a pacemaker, which he cannot afford, but most importantly he needs a Savior. Pray for us as we seek wisdom on how to minister to this family; Safety for Brandon and Nathan as they come to spend Christmas with us.

**Praises:** that Martin is coming to church, for our safe travels; for the approval of our permanent visas 3 months ahead of schedule.

Simply His Servants and for His Glory

*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)

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