

The Ackerman Family Missionaries to Bolivia

8/26/11

Dear Family and Friends, Thank you for your faithfulness in holding us and the Iglesia Bautista Biblica de San Lorenzo up in prayer.

We were pleasantly surprised by a big welcome dinner at the church and so glad to be back where the Lord has called us to minister. Pastor Arcil and his wife Elizabeth have done a great job in keeping the work going. It was a particular challenge for them since they lived part time in San Lorenzo and part time in the city Tarija, which is only 30 miles away. 30 miles does not seem far but if you have no transportation of your own it is a daily challenge. They have now moved full time to Tarija where they are serving their home church.

It was a blessing to see that several new believers have been added to the fold during their time here. Some of these new believers are now being discipled by us and we are looking forward to their baptisms in the future. While the adult attendance has increased many of the young people who were coming have fallen away so there are very few remaining.

There are several matters for which we need much prayer. It seems like the problem with drunkenness in our neighborhood has increased. At times it is hard to hear the preaching over the sound of the fiestas, which has been every weekend so far.

Since we have broken ground here the cults are now setting up residency in our neighborhood and causing much confusion for the people, even the new believers. The Jehovah Witnesses have a salon at the end of the same street now from where we meet, the Mormons have bought a huge tract of land and are building a church on it and then selling lots to their followers at a cheap price, the big entertaining charismatic church in Tarija, which charges admission for their Benny Hinn style healings, is sending a bus out on Sunday mornings to carry people to their church, the list goes on and the opportunities abound. Anybody feel lead by the Lord to serve Him in San Lorenzo?

Sadly there has also been some grievous sin committed by two professing believers in our absence that we are dealing with at this time. We ask your prayers for wisdom in this area and conviction to those involved. It is our prayer for restoration for these brethren.

While it may seem overwhelming at times we will cling to the promise of God and keep preaching, teaching, and living God's Word. "Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness." Is. 41:10

Please pray that; the works of the enemy will be frustrated, that those who have fallen will repent and be restored, that Christ will be proclaimed to the uttermost, and that the Holy Spirit will guide the lost to the Truth, and wisdom for us.

I also I try to send out e-mail updates every two weeks, in between my prayer letters. If you are not receiving these updates by email please respond to rackerman@bpmission.org and I will be glad to put you on our e-mail list so that you can keep current of our prayer needs.

For His Glory, Matt. 5:16.

Rick & Sheila Ackerman

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