



# The Ackerman Family

Missionaries to Bolivia

10/10/08

Dear Praying Friends and Family, It is that time once again to share with you what is going on here in Bolivia. We are all doing fine and we praise the Lord for our good health. The kids are plugging along at school. Brandon has sent his application to Pensacola Christian College to be enrolled in the Fall Semester of 09. It also appears Nathan will graduate too; he has yet to decide on what he wants to do. Joel has a few more years to go, and at this point he is thinking about the military. Sharon is doing well and is quite the social butterfly. Sheila is busy most days writing puppets scripts and programs for the Hora Felizes and monitoring the kids in school. Me, I am busy most days studying the language, God's Word, and writing sermons. Sheila and I do go out visiting, seeking opportunities to share God's Word and inviting them to learn more. Just last week we were notified by Julie, a girl from the Jovenes club who recently received Christ, that her older brother, Ricardo, was hit by a car while he was walking home from a fiesta. He was very badly injured and for a time he lost his movement below the neck. We went to visit him in the General hospital and read some scriptures and prayed with him. Praise the Lord he is better now and at home. However the environment in the hospital is not favorable to healing. A person shares a room with 5 others and it is the bare bones. Each patient gets a bowl of soup. While we were there Sheila noticed another patient who was not eating and she asked Asunta, the mother of Ricardo, why doesn't he eat? He was thin as a rail. She said, "If they cannot feed themselves and there is no one to feed them they will starve." Upon hearing this Sheila went over and asked him if he was hungry and offered to feed him. He gladly accepted the offer. I will cherish the sight of her reaching out to him in love. It reminds me of the Scripture *"For whosoever shall give you a cup of water to drink in my name, because ye belong to Christ, verily I say unto you, he shall not lose his reward."* Mark 9:41

I shared this with another missionary who was here 20 years ago and he said "Oh things are so much better now, a person used to have to bring their own food, linens, and medicines."

On the political scene the talks have produced an atmosphere of peace, but things are still a bit tense and could blow up at anytime. It seems so unpredictable here, the only thing that is predictable is that when they do not get their way there will be a roadblocks.

Concerning the ministry with the young kids and the Jovenes things are progressing well. We had over 25 at Hora Feliz on Saturday. Then Saturday evening we had a good group as well. On Sept. 27 we had a normal service and then a fire and hotdog roast after the service. We had sent invitations home with the youth for their entire family to participate in the service as well as the cook out. Praise the Lord one family accepted the invitation and they had a wonderful time. We were able to visit with them and get to know them better. However, several of the other youth did not share their invitations with their parents. The idea was so that their parents would come and understand what we are doing here. We wanted to be open and honest. We have come to find out that several of the youth have a fear that they will not be able to come back if their parents find out what they are doing. This has been the case with Mary Lee, and Ida. The parents of these two girls have prohibited them from attending the services because we are "Evangelistas" which means anything Protestant in nature and not Catholic. This is real problem here, the majority of the people here are very religious, they attend every drunken fiesta in honor of the saints with gladness and occasionally a Mass, but they do not want to change their ways because this was the way of their fathers before them. "Oh Lord help us to break through this Barrier!"

Please continue to pray for the Country of Bolivia, Ricardo, and the situation with the parents of Mary Lee and Ida.

We Praise the Lord for; our good health and the opportunity to be here and to minister. For your prayers

Simply His Servants

*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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