



The Ackerman Family

Missionaries to Bolivia

Dear Family and Prayer Partners

Feb. 17, 2012

We pray that all is well with you, and that our Lord is meeting all your needs. We give thanks for all of you who support us in the Lord's ministry here in San Lorenzo.

Our family is doing well overall, our son Brandon is to be deployed to a war zone in mid-March. Joel is did not get the appointment to the Air Force Academy as hoped, so now he is applying at a Christian College who has an ROTC program. Nathan is working hard in southern Missouri and saving for college. Sharon is still waiting on the decision from Shepherds College in Wisconsin.

The ministry in Canasmoro is producing fruit, as we have 5 who are now very faithful in coming and every Tuesday we seem to have one or two visitors from the community.

The ministry here in San Lorenzo has had its struggles but we continue on for the Lord. In an e-mail update 2 weeks ago I wrote that Marcos Antonio was bringing reproach to the name of Christ by his actions and we needed to enforce some Church discipline. I am pleased to say at this point, he has repented and has been restored to fellowship.

In early January we had our annual youth camp in which 150 attended, with 9 of those being from San Lorenzo. It was a great week and 16 young people came to know the Lord as their Saviour. We also had young mother (Gudelia) accept Christ in one of our services here in San Lorenzo.

Due to the fact that many have been asking about the End Times coinciding with the Mayan Calendar I decided to preach on the book of Revelation on Sunday nights. Now the Believers here know for certain the world will not end on Dec. 22, 2012. We also had to discontinue our marriage study on Thursday nights, because the couples that were coming decided they could skip one of the other services if they attended Thursday night's study.

Then on February 6 we had the pleasure of baptising Florindo, Nilda and their daughter Marisol. And the following week they were able to participate in the Lord's Supper with us. What a blessing it is when we follow the Lord in obedience, while life is not perfect we can still see and experience the blessings the Lord has bestowed on us. This is a lesson Florindo and his family are learning. Florindo (35) is the one who had trichinosis on the brain. The good news is, the disease has died for now due to an aggressive treatment. But now he has another problem, he is not able to function well, having headaches, losing his equilibrium and eyesight. He has tried to get help through the govt health system here but has only got the run around for over 6 months. Out of concern for his worsening condition I took him to two private neurologists. Both the first and second opinions agreed.

I was present in both exams and saw the brain scan when he was diagnosed with a very serious case of "Hydrocephalus", fluid on the brain, and a possible tumour. Both doctors recommended surgery as soon as possible, if he does not have the surgery he will go blind and then likely die. In Bolivia you have to have the money up front and that is something Florindo lacks and this is a surgery his government-sponsored ins. will not cover. Please pray and if you feel led of the Lord, please make a donation to our account with Baptist Pioneer Mission, in the name of Florindo Vasquez. The cost of the surgery is around \$3500 U.S. dollars. To us this sum may seem small for a brain surgery but to most Bolivians it is large. If you would like more information please e-mail me at rackerman@bpmission.org.

Please Pray for: Florindo and his family, the work in Canasmoro and San Lorenzo, that the believers would remain strong during this awful time of Carnaval, the continued restoration of Marcos Antonio, our son Brandon, and for Sharon's acceptance to Shepherds College.

Praises: the salvation of Gudelia, the baptisms of Florindo, Nilda, and Marisol, and for God's Faithfulness and your faithfulness and support.

For His Glory, Matt. 5:16.

Rick & Sheila Ackerman

Sending Church

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