



December 1, 2016

Friends,

Over the past year we've experienced many milestones to celebrate in our family (i.e. Emma turning 5! Tannia & Emma getting their USA visas! Toby completing his doctorate!) - and now we have some additional **BIG NEWS!** At the end of this month **the Travis Family is Moving to the USA!**

Toby has accepted the position of Headmaster at [Desert Christian Schools](http://www.desertchristian.org) (DCS) in Tucson, AZ (see www.desertchristian.org)! We will be making our transition to the USA between the Christmas and New Year holidays and Toby will officially step into his new role on Monday, January 9th!

Desert Christian Schools is an independent, inter-denominational Christian covenant school partnering with parents who desire to see their children raised up "...in the nurture and admonition of the Lord" (Ephesians 6:4). DCS was founded in 1986 on Tucson's eastside as a high school and has since grown to include a second campus for preschool to 8th grade. Today, DCS represents more than fifty area churches as **Tucson's only independent, comprehensive preschool-12th grade Christian school.** DCS is governed by a parent-elected Board of Trustees, staffed by licensed, qualified faculty, and is fully accredited by the Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI).



DCS offers its nearly 600 students a rigorous traditional liberal arts education taught from a biblical worldview. A wide variety of co-curricular activities are also offered to enhance each child's experience beyond the classroom. Professionally certified faculty members are committed to discipling students while providing the finest quality Christian education. As a result, **DCS produces academic excellence within a caring, Christ-centered environment.**

Why the move? Well, there are multiple factors... First and foremost, we believe we are walking in obedi-

ence to God’s leading, and that He is directing us to Tucson. Second, in order to secure citizenship for Emma and Tania, we must be residing in the USA. Third, Toby’s passion is for *Christian* education and it is our strong desire to once again be serving daily in a Christian school environment — similar to our years of ministry at the [Alliance Academy International](#) in Quito.



How does this impact our ministry with [Ripe For Harvest World Outreach](#)?

As Toby has been interviewing with a number of schools over the past few months, one of the key elements for us during those interviews was to identify a school that would also support and partner with us in the continuation of our ministry; especially with international Christian schools.

DCS fully recognizes the value and the importance of Toby’s ministry to continue to provide training, mentoring, and consulting to Christian schools; especially to those who would otherwise never have access to this level of support. Thus, we will continue as missionaries with Ripe For Harvest World Outreach — but now our “home base” will be in Arizona, rather than Ecuador.

If you haven’t seen it yet, please check out the updated video about our ministry at www.rfhtravis.com and please share the video with others; encouraging them to partner with us in the changing of lives and communities through the impact of quality and authentic Christian education.



What about financial support? Although we are moving our base of ministry to the USA, we are still very much in need of your support. In fact, the financial package which DCS can provide is considerably less than what we are receiving currently in Ecuador. As you may be aware, Christian schools are among the lowest paying employers in the field of education, yet they have the greatest potential impact for discipling students. Also, in order for Toby to continue providing training and consulting to other Christian school leaders, that is only possible through your generous and continued support.

For 2017 Toby has already received invitations to provide training to hundreds of Christian school teachers and administrators serving in **Colombia**, as well as invitations to return to the countries of **Panama, Paraguay, and Mexico**. Your generous year-end donation to [Ripe For Harvest World Outreach](#) will allow us to continue meeting the needs of these ministries—impacting their schools and their communities for Christ. **Please use the enclosed envelope to send your donation today.** Thank you!

Yours for Christ,

Toby & Tannia Travis (and Emma too!)