



Praises!

- Silvio was baptized!
- Salvation in San Juan

Prayer Requests

- Spiritual opposition in San Juan
- Bus engine replacement
- Return to life and ministry in Colombia the end of May



Bible Shipment Update and Prayer Request

Thank you all for your continued prayers for the Bible shipment. Bearing Precious Seed has kindly printed and compiled a sea container full of Spanish Bibles, New Testaments, and John and Romans for Colombia. It was shipped in late February and arrived to the port in Buenaventura, Colombia, last week. Unfortunately, the contact in charge of getting it through port had made some mistakes in the paperwork and planning and now it is being held up while everything is corrected. Please pray for the Colombian customs authorities to allow it through quickly and at the lowest possible expense. They will soon begin to impose daily fines until everything is approved and cleared out of port. It has become a difficult situation and we pray it gets resolved.

Spiritual Opposition

The ministries and church plants continue in San Juan and Ipialis. When God is at work, the wicked one desires to hinder as much as possible. We are beginning to see some of that opposition, especially in San Juan. This last week, we found out that the Catholic priest in San Juan is now telling the attendees at mass to not allow their children to come to the Bible club. Praise the Lord that although it has impacted attendance some, there are several parents who still allow their children to come. We pray that the Bible club makes an eternal impact for these children as they see the clear difference between the truth and their traditions.

The addiction outreach ministry has been fruitful. Three men have now finished their time in the program and after leaving the program have begun to come to the church in Pasto—even bringing their family members. One young man called after getting out of the program asking about the services and came to know Christ as his Savior. Several who had professed faith in Christ wanted to be baptized but received opposition from their family members. Please pray for their continued discipleship

and ability to follow the Lord in believer's baptism. We also learned that the rehabilitation center has now allowed a lady pastor to begin coming in every week to talk with the men. She claims to be able to cast out demons and claims that is what the men really need to break their addictions. We pray the men will be able to see through the deceit and be turned away from her false teaching. It is amazing that no one showed interest in these men until after they began to hear the truth.

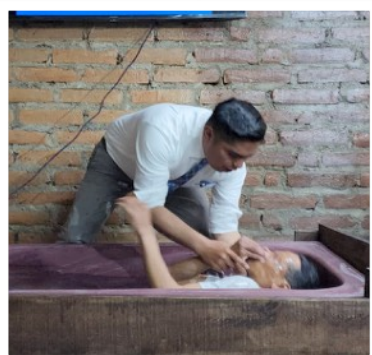
Van Update

We have not mentioned much about the church van situation. In November, the van broke down while on route to evangelize in San Juan. We found that it needed a new engine. Unfortunately, we learned that although it is only a 2014, the previous owners had hidden major issues they had with it and had fixed it with inferior parts before selling it. The repair failed destroying the engine. It is not as simple as in the States to replace the engine as everything has to go through the correct processes. Praise the Lord that we found a used engine and now are waiting for it to be installed. Please pray with us that the mechanic will do a good job and the van will be reliable for years to come.



Silvio Was Baptized!

Praise the Lord, a few weeks ago, Silvio followed the Lord in believer's baptism! This was a huge step of faith for him and a testimony to the church in Ipialis. It was difficult as he is the only one in his family who knows Christ and will now face further opposition from his family. Please pray for his spiritual walk with and growth in the Lord. We wished so badly that we could have been there for this milestone but look forward to being back soon.



San Juan

The work in San Juan continues slowly but surely. The town is very heavily Catholic and steeped in traditions. However, God is still at work. Praise the Lord for those who come faithfully and are growing in the Lord. Praise the Lord that this last week, a man who has been coming to the Sunday service trusted Christ as his Savior. Another family expressed their desire to see the rest of their family come to know Christ. We are so grateful for Brother Carlos and his family and Missionary Roe, who have continued and grown the ministries while we have been away. Please pray for us as we return and get integrated back into everything to know how to further the work, not take away from these men who have been used by the Lord. A missionary's job is to work himself out of a job. We don't want them to stop doing what they have been doing or think that we have to do it; we want to see the work furthered and fit back in where God wants us.

Thank you so much for your continued prayer and support for our family and ministry. We are so thankful for each of you!

In Christ,
Matt Smith for the family
Missionaries to Colombia

