



Praises!

- Salvation of Gilberto
- Conference in Quito

Prayer Requests

- Bible institute
- Amanda and baby
- Housing
- Church growth in San Juan and Ipialis
- Bibles for Venezuela



Pastors receiving Bibles



Pastor's conference in Quito

Pray Ye Therefore the Lord of the Harvest!

A few weeks ago, God gave me the privilege to attend a conference in Quito, Ecuador, for missionaries and pastors. It was very refreshing meeting pastors and missionaries from Mexico, Peru, Ecuador, the United States, and Spain. The preaching was heavily focused on ministry, and God used it to show us areas that we can improve in our ministry in Colombia. At the end of the conference, I stopped to greet one of the keynote speakers, who is a national pastor in Ecuador. When he learned that we are working in Pasto Nariño, Colombia, he got excited and began to tell me that he and his church have focused for years on praying for God to plant churches in different areas. As he is pastoring in Ecuador, he has a burden for every province of the country. In 2012, he and fifteen of his men took tracts and drove up to the capital of the northernmost province of Ecuador, Tulcan, to evangelize and pray for God to plant a church there. He said that, as a group, they decided cross over into Colombia to the capital of Nariño, the city of Pasto. They would pass out tracts and pray for God to put a church in Pasto. The first town they came to as they entered Colombia was Ipialis, so they stopped for a couple hours to pass out tracts and pray for God to put a church in Ipialis. Then they continued on to Pasto and spent several hours passing out tracts and praying together for God to put a church in Pasto. He said that they returned to their church in Ecuador and, for a month, focused together as a church on fasting and praying for the cities of Tulcan, Ecuador; Ipialis, Colombia; and Pasto, Colombia. As I listened to him recount of their prayer for these three cities, I could not but marvel at what God has done. It was in December of 2012 that Pastor Ceron left the Colombian national police with the purpose of returning to Pasto to plant a church. Two months after we arrived in Pasto, God gave us contacts two hours away in the city of Ipialis, and so we began to make the long drive down to Ipialis several times a week to hold Bible

studies. Not long after, God put us in contact with a Pastor Joel, who had recently planted a church in Tulcan, Ecuador, and together, we planted the church in Ipialis.

Within a decade of the church's prayer and evangelism trip, God has sent a multi-national team of church planters to both northern Ecuador and southern Colombia. The very first three cities to receive churches out of the many hundreds in these regions are: Pasto, Ipialis, and Tulcan. God has specifically answered prayer to "send forth laborers into His harvest."

Addiction Ministry and San Juan Church Plant Update

We have mentioned the addiction recovery ministry in San Juan. Unfortunately, we have not been able to go back, and it appears the ministry there has ended. A few weeks ago, there was a revolt in the recovery center, and the workers were tied up, while the inmates made demands. The demands were not met by the owners, so all of the young left the center. We pray that those who were genuinely saved will now come to church. Praise the Lord that both the children's Bible club and the church plant in San Juan continue and are experiencing growth.

Bible Institute

Our summer Bible institute class ends in two weeks. It has been both a good and stretching opportunity. I have greatly enjoyed the many questions the students ask and believe that we are learning together as we study God's Word. We will be very glad when brother Roe returns to Colombia to teach this fall. Please pray for the continued growth and development of Lighthouse Baptist Bible Institute.

Prayer Requests

We are constantly reminded that any success we see here is because of God's work in answer to prayer. We covet prayer specifically for several things: 1. Genuine growth spiritually in both Ipialis and San Juan churches and folks to be saved. 2. Wisdom in the near future for planting of church in Nariño, Colombia. Please pray specifically for God to provide an inexpensive store front for services and Bible studies. 3. Safety for Amanda and baby due in November. Amanda has been having more difficulty breathing with this baby. 4. Bus repair to be finished soon. We still have not got our bus back after many months at the mechanics shop. 5. God to provide another place for our family to live. We learned yesterday that the owners will be selling our apartment. 6. Joanna as she serves with us here. God's provision for her and help as she continues to learn Spanish. 7. A young man named Gilberto who trusted Christ as his Savior a few weeks ago. Unfortunately, he is from a distant town and had no phone for further contact. Pray for him to be discipled.

Thank you so much for your continued prayer and support for our family and ministry! We are so grateful!

In Christ,
Matt Smith for the family
Missionaries to Colombia



Sunday School in San Juan