

ROCK OF AGES MINISTRIES

"For we preach not ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord." II Corinthians 4:5

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July - August 2018

Hello from Guatemala to all our supporting pastors, churches, friends, and family. We are so thankful for what the Lord has been doing through our family. It's hard to imagine that we have now been here for 11 months. The Lord has done a great work in our lives during this time. Thank you to those who have given your support through prayer and offerings! I speak of your offerings as Paul did in Philippians **"an odour of a sweet smell, a sacrifice acceptable, wellpleasing to God."**

URGENT NEWS: As most of you know, our youngest daughter Marlee, has a disorder called Kidney Reflux. Over the past few months Marlee has shown more signs of infections. Over the past 2 weeks we have watched her body, appetite, and her little personality completely change. We became very concerned and decided to see our pediatrician here in Guatemala. The doctor ordered blood work and other tests for Marlee. We were then given the news that we in fact have a very sick little girl. It has broken our heart to see the decline in her health. We then spoke with her pediatrician in the United States and explained Marlee's lab results and symptoms. Our pediatrician's words were, "When is the soonest that your family can come back to the US? Marlee needs to have a surgery." We were so devastated to hear this news. We have to leave our home, the ministry, and the people? How? However, as a father I have learned that our family's NEEDS come before the needs of the ministry. I have learned that God does work all things together for the good of them that love him. I have learned that His grace will carry us through the unknown. I have learned His peace is sweetest during the misunderstandings of life. I have learned that no matter what and where, HIS WILL is filled with joy unspeakable and full of glory! With that being said, we have plans to go to the US for this medical emergency on September 18th. After talking with the urologist, we believe it will be possible to return to Guatemala by October 31st. We just pray for the Lord to have His will in Marlee's situation and to meet the need for our plane tickets. It will most likely cost between \$3,500 to \$4,000 depending on our return date. Please help us pray that the Lord will provide the cost of these tickets. He has already provided a vehicle for us to drive and a place to stay, and we know He will provide this financial need as well. We know that NONE of this took God by surprise, and we can lift our hands and praise Him despite the circumstances. Thank you to each of you that will pray for Marlee; she is our little love bug and joy maker, and we pray this operation will resolve all of her medical issues.

There is also wonderful news to report in this prayer letter! On August 12th the Lord allowed us to see our first soul saved by the grace of God! I was preaching on the rapture of the church and noticed a young mother under conviction. After the service she quickly made her way to the back of the church, broken hearted, under conviction, and with acknowledgment that she had never truly been saved. I asked Melissa to talk with her, and my wife said this young lady KNEW she was lost and KNEW she was a sinner. My wife said the lady bowed her head and asked Jesus to save her! Afterwards she lifted her head, looked at Melissa, and said, "I feel like a weight has been lifted off my shoulders." We shouted and glorified God in Heaven! Oh friends, what a blessing to know that one day you will meet Noelia in Heaven and she will thank you for sending a missionary to Guatemala so she could hear the Gospel and be saved! Please pray for Noelia, her husband Raymundo, and their 3 little girls. We are so thankful for what the Lord could do with this family in the future!

Once again, we want to thank each of you for praying for our family and our little girl! We will keep you updated with her condition as we know more. It is only by God's grace and the prayers of His people that we are able to continue on this wonderful journey!

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