

June, 2008

Newsletter

(Clarks from Colombia)

I mentioned in my last prayer letter that I had been sick. The doctors determined that it was necessary to operate and take my gal bladder out. That took place in Bogotá at the end of January. Besides that, I've struggled with a sever case of gastritis. So I've spent the last few months attempting to recuperate and get better. Thanks to the Lord, I'm doing a lot better. I must admit though, it's been tough but God has used it all for His glory.

The work here Colombia continues to grow as numerous new works have been started within this year. As a ministry, we have divided the country into 4 different regions. The existing churches in each region are working together to establish new churches in each capital and principle city of their specific area. This will speed up the reproduction of churches in all of Colombia. We are also seeing a multiplication of leadership. For example, over 60 individuals are being trained as missionaries at this time. Many of them lack very little before they will be sent to the field. Some of them will be leading the different works that are sprouting up all over the country. Others will be sent to other nations of the world.

The work here in Cartagena is going well. We continue with the home bible studies each week and also have organized services every six weeks where we preach the word of God, challenging them to live what they are learning in the weekly home bibles studies. We now have 15 studies each week. God has also sent a couple from one of our churches in Medellín to assist us in the ministry here. They arrived in January and have already been a great blessing. This couple has been called to missions and will finalize their training with us here. Having them here will allow us to do more traveling to the different young works and established churches throughout Colombia assisting them in whatever manner possible.

I ask you to pray for the "Passing the Torch" ministry that was born in January of this year. My father and I met with 10 pastors that expressed interest in being involved in a "minister to minister" mentoring relationship. I will return to Tulsa, Oklahoma for our next meeting on July 18th. It is for pastors, missionaries and church leaders in general. If you are interested in attending please contact me for the details. We would be glad to have you present. We believe the Lord is going to use this as a "watch care ministry" for church leaders around the entire globe in time.

Joanne and I also ask you to pray about our monthly support. The devaluation of the dollar here in Colombia has changed our financial status as missionaries. The last time the dollar was at the existing exchange was in the mid 90's. It's 50% less than what we were receiving at one time in the country. Besides this, some churches over the last few years have stopped supporting us due to certain circumstances they are experiencing. We have not gone back to the states to raise support because of our constant commitments here in this ministry. We are not worried. God has always been faithful to us throughout our 30 year missionary journey. We only ask you to pray so God will show us what He has for us under the circumstances. We don't want to have to return to the states to raise support but we are willing to do so if necessary. We see this existing challenge as another opportunity to trust Him. We know He will continue to be faithful no matter what. We thank Him for it!

Thanks for all you do for us! Paul Clark

