

June 11, 2023 Dear Praying Friends,

People Passing Away

Death is not something we all like to think about, but it is a part of everyone's life. And every time someone passes away, we are reminded of why we are here, and the urgency to prepare people for it. Death has hit our family and ministry numerous times recently. Back in March, my Grandpa Morris passed away. Two months later, my Grandma Morris passed away. Though I miss them a lot, I am thankful that they are not suffering now. The difficult part was not being able to be there. But they both are Christians, and I will see them again. Please pray for our family in dealing with the loss, and with all of the logistics (selling house, etc.). Around the same time, the mother of one of our former kids in kids club passed. She claimed to be saved, but I never got to talk to her about it. Please pray for the husband, and for the daughters (Graciela, Gabriela, and Yesenia). Then, just this past week, Rosa, an older lady who would periodically visit from Santa Cruz, passed away. She was very kind and would listen as we talked and witnessed. But, as far as I know, she never accepted Christ as Savior. It breaks my heart. Please pray for her family and the possibility to witness to others as a result. Finally, someone very close to our family passed away, very unexpectedly. Please pray for God's peace, and for wisdom on what to do next.

Bible Conferences, etc.

Part of preparing people for the next life is, of course, through preaching. And God has allowed us to be a part of several different conferences. First, as mentioned before, was the Bible conference during Carnaval, with the theme "Returning to your first love." God blessed our time both in preaching and fellowship. Next was a ladies' conference at a sister church in Filadelfia, with the theme of "Discipleship." Several ladies were able to go with my wife and two older daughters. God protected them in travel, and gave them a wonderful time. Finally, during Easter, we had a wonderful conference remembering and celebrating the victorious resurrection of our great Savior with many sister churches.

Teen Meetings

Another way to prepare people is through our teen meetings. We have recently been joining up with Tyler Miller in Filadelfia each week. And May 20th, we were able to travel to Vallegrande (2 hours away) to join in a teen conference with several churches. We thoroughly enjoyed all the games and were challenged by God's Word. Coming up in July, we intend on going to another teen conference for 3 days in the same area. It is so important to catch these kids while they are young. Please pray that God would bless us with safety in travel, a wonderful time of fellowship, and challenge us from God's Word.

Joshua & Jennifer Morris Rachel, Audrey, Daniel & Katherine

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Preaching for Co-workers

As a team, we periodically cover for each other in preaching. We covered for Bob, who traveled back to the States for a family health need. We enjoyed getting to see many old friends and make some new ones. And we pray that God's Word impacted their lives. In the next five weeks, we will cover for Mike, as he travels to be with his family for a very special occasion. Please pray for God's wisdom in sharing God's Word with them, and that it would make a lasting impression on their lives, many of whom we have worked with before.

Witnessing Opportunities

Throughout the week, and especially during visitation for the services, we try to witness to the people. There are barriers, but I can tell that they are listening, and that God's Word is working on their hearts. Please pray, as I know that some of them are close to accepting, but they are afraid of what the consequences might be. Please pray that God's Word would be the hammer that breaks the rock and the sword that pierces deep. The seeds are being planted. Please pray that God would give us a great harvest, before it is too late.

Teaching at Bible Institute

One of the great privileges and great responsibilities that I have is teaching the future pastors and church leaders in the "seminario" (Bible Institute) in Vallegrande. This coming semester (July), I get to teach the Pastoral Epistles, which is also a blessing to me, of course, being a pastor. Please pray that I will rightly divide the Word of Truth and properly prepare them for ministry. Also pray that I will be able to study it well in order to teach it well.

Family Health

Our family's health has been pretty good. But recently my youngest, Katherine, had some swelling in her neck. We were understandably concerned. She had a cyst in her lymph node that had gotten infected. But God worked it out, and when the infection was healed, the swelling slowly went away. Keep praying for all of our health.

Vehicle Situation

We are thankful for the vehicle with 4-wheel drive that God has graciously provided us. But the backcountry roads can be a bit rough on vehicles. Recently, God obviously protected us, as the brake cylinder broke. Thankfully, there was still fluid in the line, and we were able to cancel out that one cylinder, to maintain pressure in the brake line, until we could change it out for a new cylinder later. Thank you so much for your prayers. God uses your prayers to protect us.

In Christ,

Joshua, Jennifer, Rachel, Audrey, Daniel, and Katherine Morris