

GTC GOSPEL THROUGH COLOMBIA

Equipping church leaders in Colombia to proclaim the gospel throughout Latin America

*I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go;
I will guide you with my eye. Psalm 32:8*

March 2011

Beloved,

I write this month's letter from Medellin, Colombia, where Noé and I were called to help with the churches here for a few weeks. God has blessed us with the surrounding beauty of this country--mountains, flowers, good food and fellowship. But we came for a purpose—to be used by God to serve His people in Colombia through GTC projects, namely, the PEP (Pastors Equipping Pastors) mentoring program, the women's ministry, evangelism & discipling, and the ministry of Hogar Providencia.

1. The Pastors Mentoring Program

Bryant Skinner, GTC President, and Noé Acosta held a meeting with the pastors of several cities. There are hundreds of pastors throughout Colombia willing to participate in the GTC mentoring program. There is much excitement among these pastors to help one another to understand God's Word, follow biblical doctrine and be accountable to each other for responsible pastoring! **Pray that God will allow appointed leaders to coordinate this program in His wisdom, in His time, and solely for His glory!**

2. Women's Ministry

I was invited to present the Book of Ruth to Women's Conferences in Barranquilla, Santa Marta and Medellin. The women here have not received much attention and they are eager to gather as Sisters and learn from the Scriptures how to best grow and serve as Daughters of the King. Most of these ladies simultaneously hold jobs and raise families. There has been little church ministry—just for them!

Their enthusiasm to participate—even after a long, hard day, inspires me and validates their wholesome desire to meet regularly. **Pray as they coordinate Bible studies and Ladies' Tea Time Devotionals.**

Women's Conference in Santa Marta



To equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ. Eph. 4:12 ESV

PO Box 741034, Orange City, FL 32774 • Phone: 386.738.6898 • Web: www.gtcmission.org
E-mail: nacosta@gtcmission.org & grogers@gtcmission.org

3. Evangelism & Discipling

On the Lord's Day, February 27, Noé preached on 1 John. After the service we learned that two women came to Christ that day--one a Roman Catholic and another, a Jehovah's Witness. Noé spoke with the Jehovah's Witness for a while after the service. Afterward she admitted that she did not realize how important Jesus is and that He is God! She left with the hope of a Savior.

The woman who was Roman Catholic met with Noé and Pastor Ruiz of Iglesia Gracia de Dios. Evangelism is strong among this congregation. The church has outgrown the current meeting place—a great problem to have! **Pray that God will enable the church leaders to locate another suitable place for worship, study, teaching, counseling, discipling and fellowship.**

As we strive to serve as a missionary couple in Colombia, we acknowledge the hard work of the pastors and the sensitive needs of the congregations. Christian marriage here needs strengthening, and so, on Saturday, March 5, a special dinner and devotional was coordinated for married couples only. Marriage counseling takes much of the pastors' time, and yet, they do not fail to provide this important component of ministry to Christian families. Pray that God will strengthen marriages in Colombia and that Christian family life here will reflect the beauty of Jesus to the world.

4. Hogar Providencia, the Children's Home.

Before we left Santa Marta for Medellin, we visited the children's home there. This visit was very emotional for us as we learned about the tremendous work and needs of Hogar Providencia.

This is a mercy ministry of a local church. About nine years ago, Pastor Jaime Leal, with the help of GTC, started Iglesia Calvario in Santa Marta. Pastor Leal and his community had a heavy burden for the street children there. These children had been thrown away onto the streets and alleys by very young mothers who were prostitutes. With the financial assistance of Tenth Presbyterian Church in Philadelphia, PA, and Calvary Presbyterian Church of Willow Grove, PA, GTC was able to help Pastor Jaime to construct Hogar Providencia. The children were brought to a place that is home to them. The first children who were brought to Hogar Providencia are now teens, but younger children still arrive. One child, who is 4, calls her older sister of 8, *Mommy*, because when the younger one was only an infant, their natural mother left them both in the street. The older sister, who was 4 at that time, actually took care of her infant sister, until Pastor Jaime found them.

There are now 48 children there, each with a story to tell. But God, in His mercy, has provided a place to live, to eat, to study, to play—to grow in His Word. Many of these children could recite entire chapters of Scripture. More importantly, you should here them pray, especially for the family of GTC!

Hogar Providencia needs immediate help with more beds, mattresses, bedding and clothing. **Pray that God will move you to send help this month for the material needs of this precious ministry.**



With Love in Christ Jesus,

Mimi Acosta, Secretary for GTC