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Dear Praying Friends & Family,

Hello from warm and sunny Bucaramanga, Colombia! We thank God for a safe and smooth trip back on January 15th. We have hit the ground running and have many things to report in this letter, but first, a summary of our furlough last year:

FURLOUGH STATS

Total church services/meetings: 159 New churches visited: 36 Total miles travelled: 36,587 New financial supporters: 15

Beds slept in: 56 Gallons of gas used: 1,830 Vehicle break downs: 0 Books read: 7

We praise the Lord for the blessing of furlough! Yes, there were challenges, but God is always faithful. As you can see, he was very good to us during these 11 months.

WALKING IN TRUTH

One of the greatest joys we had upon returning to the work in Colombia was in finding the churches united, growing, and walking in truth. We continue to meet new believers who have come to Christ since we left on furlough, and even those who are serving and being trained by the leaders we left behind. Our team of preachers and leaders have worked tirelessly, and with sincere hearts, all for the Glory of Christ, knowing their labor is not in vain.

HUGE NEWS!!

At the end of January, we signed a contract to purchase a 3-story building for our second church. God miraculously provided all the funds for this work in a short amount of time, and he used several of you to do so. We thank you! Our church in Cafe Madrid, Bucaramanga, Colombia thanks you. Those who will hear the Gospel and have the chance to believe also thank you. We should have the keys and be able to move in on March 28th.

FAMILY FUNNIES

Part of living in our area of the world is that we feel tremors (small earthquakes) often. We were welcomed back to Colombia by one of these tremors one night while I was meeting with the men of the church and Aubrie had all of our girls on our bed at home. Being on the 8th story of our apartment building, the effect is somewhat multiplied. Our 3-year-old Aris had forgotten about these tremors, and shouted, "What is this bed doing?!" Everyone is safe and sound, by the way.

WHAT'S NEXT?

As both of our churches move forward, we are continually looking for ways to keep growing and expanding the glory of God here in Colombia. Lord willing, we plan to start another church toward the end of this year, and maybe 2 or 3 next year. The leaders have been trained and are excited about the possibilities. Long term, we need at least 45 churches just for our city and hundreds more around the country of Colombia. We also look beyond our region and country, and we see many other nations who have yet to hear. We know that God wants to save them as well — how can we reach them? Friends, the harvest is great, and the time of harvest is now, but the laborers are few. We thank you for faithfully partnering with us in prayer and financial support as we do our part. But, I can't help but think that maybe God wants some of you to join us... Are you willing?



Yes, we took all of these bags to Colombia, and they all arriv with us. Praise the Lord!!



It's great to be back at our church, who welcomed us back with open arms (and cake!).



This is it, folks! The future home of our church in the Cafe Madrid neighborhood of Bucaramanga.



The kids look forward to having a classroom instead of sitting outside on the sidewalk



Reunited with old friends.



The highways of Colombia are full of Venezuelan families who have fled their country amidst the conomic crisis. Some will establish themselves in cities of Colombia, while others are en route to other countries of South America. Pray for us as we minister to these precious souls around us.