

# The Hodgsons' Update

## Missionary life in Paraguay

Cory, Kim, Naomi, Elijah, and Timothy

Dear Brothers and Sisters of the Quarantine,

Greetings once again from Ciudad del Este, Paraguay. This letter is being written during a unique time in our history. With few exceptions, most of the world is experiencing some sort of quarantine. Our restrictions in Paraguay are very strict. For the last four weeks, we have been under a full lockdown, which means we can only leave the house for groceries or medicine. From 8:00 pm to 4:30 am no one is supposed to leave their home. A few days ago, we could only go out every other day, based on the last number of our license plate. While the severe restrictions have helped to keep COVID-19 cases minimal, it has made life difficult for many Paraguayans who depend on their daily wages to put food on the table. Please be in prayer for these people and the many around the world who cannot socially distance and have no savings to support themselves.



Timmy having his face painted at a birthday party



Visiting 260-year-old Jesuit ruins

Life in the Hodgson house has changed fairly drastically as of late. The kids began their school year mid-February, and after one month the schools all closed. Naomi has all of her classes arranged in Google classroom, and her classes are starting to meet online via Zoom. Elijah gets a weekly schedule of his work, and Timmy gets daily exercises to work on, as we are also teaching him how to read.

After the summer months, we began our normal ministry schedule. This included weekly prayer meetings, Bible lessons, and a class studying some more in-depth theology. We had exactly one week of classes before the quarantine went into effect and cancelled all meetings and church activities. This left us in unfamiliar territory. How do we do missions work when it is illegal to meet together? How do we disciple and fellowship while shut in our homes? Thanks to current technology, it is quite simple to do much of our work

on the phone and computer. Our students can complete their lessons, take pictures, and email them to us. While we are missing the personal contact and many friendships, our ministries can continue in new and different ways.

We have also had the opportunity to try to get to know our neighbors better. Since everyone is always home, we have been able to make some connections, and we are looking forward to a new family moving in across the street with a little boy around Timmy's age. Please pray



Cory and TCM missionary Joe Campos leading a Bible study in Recife, Brazil



Cory and Jerry Bomers receiving their instructor certificates in Krav Maga

- Here are some prayer requests:**
- For the Paraguayan people, and an end to the lockdown
  - For our kids' educations and for their teachers working from home
  - For interpersonal relationships within our family, that we can show love, grace, and patience towards one another
  - That we can replace the tail-lights stolen from our minivan (very difficult to find)
  - For our church in Paraguay, that it can remain financially solvent despite the quarantine



Kim teaching an English class for our church members



Waiting in line to enter the grocery store

that we can continue to build these relationships and have an opportunity to share the gospel.

In January, while life was "normal," Cory had the opportunity to visit his friend and fellow missionary Joe Campos in Recife, Brazil (see picture on front). It was a great time of teaching, preaching, eating, swimming, and fellowship. Praise the Lord for a great trip!

In the picture above, my colleague Jerry Bomers and I are getting our instructor certifications for Krav Maga. In the center is our teacher Cristian. Please be in prayer for him as he couldn't work for a while before the quarantine due to an injury, and with all of the schools closed, his income has stopped. He attended

our church a few times with his wife and daughter before that too was closed. Please pray for their family and their relationship with the Lord.

Thank you so much for your prayers and support!

In His service,  
*Cory, Kim, Naomi, Elijah, and Timothy Hodgson*



First day of school 2020