

The Hodgsons' Update

Missionary life in Paraguay

Cory, Kim, Naomi, Elijah, and Timothy

SEPTEMBER 2018



Cory and Talo Vergara waiting in line for immigration paperwork

Dear Friends and Family,

Greetings from Ciudad del Este, Paraguay! In our last prayer letter, we told you about our decision to serve in Paraguay, and much has happened in the last six months. Much has happened since March, but we would like to focus on the last few months.

On July 23, Cory flew out of Portland, OR, headed for Paraguay earlier than the rest of the family. We have an arrangement to live in our colleagues' (the Bomers) apartment while they are in the U.S. on

home assignment. After arriving in Paraguay, Cory received instructions about the apartment and learned some of the basics of apartment living. He had a little less than a week with Jerry and Sandi before they left. Cory also needed to focus on our permanent residency in Paraguay. We had already done a lot of work in the States collecting and verifying documents and getting FBI background checks. These things needed to be verified at the state or national levels before we continued the process in Paraguay which excels at bureaucracy—our years in Tanzania prepared us for the many requirements and steps involved. As we near the end of the process for being

granted our permanent residence in Paraguay, please pray for a positive outcome.

Cory was in Paraguay for five weeks before Kim and the kids arrived. During that time, he took some Spanish lessons, worked on immigration paperwork, met with the missionary team, and prepared the apartment for the family's arrival. He also preached at the church here and is currently in the preaching rotation. It has been very exciting to meet with many members of the church. He found that there are several families who are interested in having an English Bible study. In the future, Kim will have many opportunities to



Naomi with Talo and Patty Vergara's son, Lucas



The front of the bus bringing the whole family back to Ciudad del Este

teach English. It was a very productive time. Kim and the kids were very busy in the States during that same time. Kim's maternal grandmother passed away shortly after Cory left Oregon. While this was very difficult, Kim's grandmother was a strong believer and we are confident she is with the Lord.

Almost three weeks ago, Kim and the kids landed in Asunción, and after a seven-hour bus ride, we arrived in Ciudad del Este. It was so great to be together as a family again. Cory was excited to show them the apartment and the city, as well as introducing them to

the team here. It has been quite an adjustment living on the 13th floor of an apartment building with sometimes noisy neighbors. The kitchen is very small, and we are still discovering where to buy the best meat, produce, and bread. In the coming weeks, we will be arranging our language school schedules and deciding about private language lessons as well.

We are thankful that the Lord has led us to work in Paraguay. The people here are kind, generous, and patient. They are also open to hearing the gospel. ***Please pray for our team here*** as we reach people with the gospel and the love of Jesus Christ.



Cory, Alex Gulart, and Evangelist Nathaniel from Encarnacion

Please pray for:

- Our family as we continue to adjust to our apartment and the pace of life here
- The kids as they are working on math and writing while studying Spanish
- Cory and Kim as we are studying Spanish and building relationships both inside and outside of the church
- Our search for a reliable and quality vehicle
- Our kids finding great friends

In His service,

Cory, Kim, Naomi, Elijah,
and Timothy Hodgson



The Paraguay team minus the Hodgsons

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Worship at our Sunday night service