



Beloved friends,

TIME FLIES! You may recall from my last letter in February that I was still in Costa Rica and could not yet travel to Bolivia for a variety of reasons. The main reason was that they required a lot of documentation and it was further complicated because some documents needed to be sent to me from Bolivia. The documentation was finally completed and I was granted a visa that was valid for six months. After many delays, I was able to leave on April 3rd and arrived in Santa Cruz, Bolivia in the early morning of April 4.

I THANK GOD that as I approached the exit of the airport I saw my fellow Grace Ministries International (GMI) team member **Talo Vergara** waiting for me. I then met his beautiful family, including his wife Patty, and their little boys, Lucas and Matias. As I settled into ministry, I quickly became acquainted with the local churches affiliated with GMI and met many people with unwavering faith and a great desire to know and serve Jesus. This was a very exciting time and my expectations were high.

I THANK THE LORD for the many opportunities I have had to get involved with churches and ministries here in Bolivia. I am constantly invited to minister at local churches and I have enjoyed sharing the message of our hope in Christ with women and young people in various gatherings on Saturdays and Sundays. Additionally, I have also been able to be part of the **“DAR” Homeless Ministry**, which feeds and provides clothing to more than fifty homeless men, women, and children, once a month.

I HAVE DEVELOPED FRIENDSHIPS with several women and I have been discipling one of them throughout my time here. Her name is Rosio Banegas, and she is the wife of the interim pastor of **Iglesia Dios es Amor**. Together we visited Ebenezer Church, located in a small isolated town outside of Santa Cruz and I was able to see their ministry. On Sundays, the church provides breakfast to around twenty-five kids from the surrounding community at the church. Along with that, I also visited Camp Buena Vista and it was amazing!! Camp Buena Vista is a Christian camp and retreat facility with cabins, basketball courts, an assembly hall, a kitchen, and green areas. It's really beautiful. It is a place where people are challenged to grow in their knowledge of Jesus.

THE PRIMARY WORK that I have been involved with during the week has been the GMI-affiliated Bible Institute, Centro Biblico de la Gracia (CBG). CBG provides ministry training and Biblical teaching to



D.A.R. Homeless Ministry at Emmanuel Church



Women's Ministry at Iglesia Dios es Amor (God is Love Church)



CGB Students

pastors, ministry leaders, and others who desire to be equipped for ministry in the local churches affiliated with GMI. It is a very effective work as CBG provides sound Biblical, doctrinal, and theological teaching for our churches in Bolivia through online and in-person classes. At CBG I have helped with enrollment and the day-to-day interactions with the students as they attend classes which are almost always in the evenings.

AS I REFLECT on my experience in Bolivia, I have been impressed with all that God has done in this precious place through the ministry of faithful believers over the past seventy years. As my time here comes to a close, I think the one who has gained the most from this experience has been me, and I thank God for having brought me here.

SINCE IT WOULD have been very expensive and difficult to extend my time here in Bolivia beyond the six months allowed on my visa, I will be traveling to Nicaragua in mid-October. In Nicaragua, I will be supporting the work of GMI in Nagarote and preparing to relocate to Merida, Mexico at the end of February. In Mexico I will be working with GMI team members Luis and Marcia Coto, supporting them in any way I can in their church planting ministry.

I give infinite thanks to God for having brought me to this place, and for taking care of me every day! I also thank him for each one of you who has supported me through your prayers and gifts.

Blessings,

Marta Cordero



Children's Ministry at Ebenezer Church

Prayer Requests

- *Pray* that my remaining time in Bolivia will be profitable and beneficial as I share Christ with the Bolivian people.
- *Pray* that I will organize my last months here well and that I will listen to God's voice as he directs the steps I take.
- *Pray* for my GMI co-workers, Talo and Patty Vergara, and their children, that God will give them strength, renew their vision as they lead CBG, and give them much love for the people they serve in Bolivia.
- *Pray* for Rosio Banegas, that God will work in her life and that she will pass on to other women what she has learned during our time of discipleship.
- *Pray* for my soon-to-be-born grandchildren and their parents; my daughter Raquel and son-in-law Emiliano Seravalli, and my son Aaron Cordero and his wife Adela who serve together with GMI in Nicaragua. Please pray that their pregnancies continue to go well and that their babies arrive safely and in good health.



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