



Bruce Martin Family Missionary Report

November 2021

Training new missionaries

I was asked a question at my sponsoring church's mission conference this past October: "What is the future of missions in America since we are seeing a decline in new missionaries going to the field?" My response was a sad one. I don't like the idea that the United States is declining in their missionary zeal, but if we look at history, we can find the God always raises up another people to carry on his work. In the

19th century, England was the missionary power house. In the 20th century, the United States was the missionary leader. In the 21st century, God might pass the torch to another country. I am convinced that the direction is probably toward Latin America. In the past 10 years, I have been amazed at the increase in missionary activity from Latin American nations and especially Mexico.

During the first week of November, I had the privilege to catch a glimpse at this future. I had the privilege to teach missions logistics to a group of young people in the jungles of Chiapas in southern Mexico. I was astonished to see 43 missionary candidates come for the class. They have been meeting for classes once a month for the past year. They are excited at the calling that God has given them and I was humbled by their zeal and commitment.

I am planning, in 2022, to help them as much as I can to get ready for their great spiritual challenge. I will be having more classes during the year. They are planning a month long missions trip to Nepal in September. I plan to travel with them for part of that trip. As God provides, we hope to make more missions survey trips to other countries after the Nepal trip.



Missions Logistics Class in Chiapas Mexico, November 2021

Missionaries to Latin America



Sponsored since 1980 by:

Metropolitan Baptist Church
6051 Azle Ave.
Fort Worth, TX 76135
Tel.: (817) 237-2201
Cell: (817) 939-1944
Email: brumar@mail.org
Web: www.metrobc.org

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Trip to Argentina

The planned trip to Argentina in September was very unpredictable because of the COVID pandemic. During 2021, the government of Argentina has had wildly varying policies for arriving international passengers. We were not sure that we would be able to visit our son until the last minute.

On September 14, Kelsi and David welcomed their daughter, Eliza LouAnn into the world. Despite a cesarean section, mother and baby arrived without any problems. On September 24, Provi and I arrived in Corrientes, Argentina. We spent over two weeks getting to know our new granddaughter. The Argentinian government required us to quarantine for a week, even though we tested negative for COVID. But, we were able to do the quarantine at our son's house. Once that was over with, we were able to spend some time with the new contacts that David is working with in Corrientes. I was able to preach several times at a small house church in the city.

During our stay, I was able to meet with some of the contacts that David is developing to the south of Corrientes and see the potential for starting new congregations in several towns about an hour's drive to the south.

After our time with our family, we travelled to Buenos Aires to

spend almost a week with the brethren and churches in that area. It was a joy to reconnect with old friends and encourage them during the trying times that they have been going through these past two years. We were saddened to see an economy that has been devastated by the lockdowns and draconian government reactions to the pandemic. Inflation in Argentina is over 100% per year. That means that prices of everything are doubling every 12 months. This has made it very hard for those who are living on fixed incomes. Everywhere that we went, we could see businesses that we were familiar with on previous trips, that are now shut down.

During our trip, we ended up taking 4 different COVID tests.



The Martin family joyfully welcomes Eliza LouAnn

Thankfully, they were negative every time and we arrived back home by the middle of October. Thanks for your prayers



This church in Corrientes, Argentina is meeting in a rented house and can barely fit.