

THE WILLIAM AYA FAMILY

Missionaries to Colombia

Sent by

Mission Blvd. Baptist Church

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Bogotá

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Dear brethren,

Greetings in the sweet name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. We hope you are rejoicing in His blessings.

A year having passed since our arrival in Colombia, we give thanks to God that we can give an accounting of what He has done and is doing in this country. We actually have 1,000 active students, and 900,000 tracts have been handed out since we received the 2 containers of materials. This month we began working in the four prisons in Bogotá: "La Modelo", "La Publica", "La Picota", and "El Buen Pastor" which is for women. We began with 100 students in each jail, and soon I should be receiving special permission to go in and teach one hour a week in each place. Our desire is to fill Colombia with the Truth. As the apostle Paul says, "For I have not shunned to declare unto you all the counsel of God." We already have students and contacts in Bogotá, Medellín, Risaralda, Cartagena, Meta, Santander, Tolima, and Sucre, and one day soon "the ends" of Colombia.

At the same time God has given us the privilege of discipling different people who have come to our office with the desire to learn more about Christ. We have these discipleship studies during the week in the office or in the families' homes. The names of these people are as follows: 1) Alberto, 2) Ruben, 3) Omar, 4) Fabian, 5) Daniel, 6) Alirio, 7) Jairo, 8) Pedro, 9) Alexis, 10) Manuel and his family (Nelly, Liliana, Caroll, and Rosa), 11) Humberto and his family (Maria Cristina, Laura, and Ximena), 12) Luz Marina, 13) Astrid and her daughter Carolina (They received Christ this past week.), and 14) Carlos (He began being disciplined this very week. Seventeen years involvement in the FARC guerrilla warfare, then God rescued him!). Really we are almost ready to begin the first independent Baptist church. It is a little complicated because of the many erroneous doctrines in this country, and because people are very hesitant to trust, but little by little they are understanding the truth.

We had a big scare March 5th. A very powerful bomb was placed on the corner where the Institute is located, but, thank God, the police moved quickly and successfully deactivated it.

Please pray for Ruben. He would like to go in the future as a missionary to Yopal Casanare. Please pray for Manuel A. Barrera. We see a lot of potential in him to become a pastor if it is God's will to call him to His work. Please pray for Daniel. He wants to serve the Lord, and in the future begin a church in Ciudad Bolivar. Please pray that we could go to Apulo, a town three hours from Bogotá, to preach the Word and to take the Bible studies. Please pray this week as we go to a rehabilitation center for prostitute girls run by the government, which has asked us to go and take the Bible studies. Please pray for our support, that other churches would feel the desire to help in this ministry. Every day the ministry increases, and the expenses also. The value of the dollar decreases every day in respect to the Colombian peso. When we came here the exchange rate was 2,700 pesos to the dollar. Now we only receive 2,000 pesos for each dollar we exchange, although it takes 2,350 pesos to exchange from pesos to dollars.

I thank each person who has written us. Truly your letters encourage us, and it is nice to know you love us. I also thank each church that sent us a special love offering at Christmas. We really thank you.

Well, that is all for now.
May God bless you.

William Aya