

May 2005

Psalm 27:4 One thing have I desired of the LORD, that will I seek after; that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the LORD, and to enquire in his temple.

Dear Brethren,

Greetings from Panama. I hope this prayer letter finds you well and blessed.

What a blessing it is to have a wonderful home church. We stay so busy that we sometimes forget how much we miss our brethren and being there with them. We have been reminded of this by special visitors from Mission Blvd. Baptist Church. A young man named Todd Cogan has come down to learn Spanish and see what the will of the Lord is for his life. He stayed with us for about a week and has gone to Cañazas with Bro. Cristobal Yañez where he will be learning Spanish and helping in the ministry for a year. He is now totally immersed into the culture and language. Please pray for him that he will adapt and learn quickly since he came not knowing any Spanish. We also have been blessed by the 10 day visit of Bro. Terry Osbon, his wife Krystal, and their baby son Trey. It was great to catch up on all the news and blessings, and to show them some of the congregations and ministries and other sights of Panama.

I am happy to report that Bro. Guillermo Aya and his wife Hilda have returned from a visit to our home church for the discipleship conference and a visit with their family. He pastors the Gatún congregation and Hilda helps in our correspondence school ministry. Their return will allow me to focus on other areas of the ministry.

We will be moving to Penonomé, in the interior of Panama, this coming month. This will expand and benefit the overall ministry in many ways. The Gatún congregation will be on their own so that they can grow in some ways that our presence has prevented. We will also be more centralized which will enable us to help all the congregations. It will be a new area to begin working in. We are excited about the change, but sad the we are leaving behind some very special people in Gatún. Pray for our children that they will adapt well and make new friends. Change is always tougher on them.

We were also blessed to participate in the anniversary services of the congregation in Santiago. May 31st marked the fourth anniversary since this congregation began meeting.

We really appreciate your prayers and support in the Lord's work here in Panama. May God continue to bless you richly.

In Christ,

Michael Lea and family