

# The Schneider Testimonio

*Preparing to serve in Santiago, Chile*

*The things which you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses, entrust these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.*

2 Timothy 2:2



Oct/Nov 2009 - Vol. 2, Issue 4

## Prayer & Praise Letter

### Prayer Requests and Praises

- *Prayer for Spanish language acquisition for all three of us in our conversation, grammar, and vocabulary, so that the Lord might use our labors to further advance His kingdom.*
- *Pray that we continue to grow in the likeness of our Lord and the knowledge of His Word.*
- *Pray for clarity in Steve's teaching in Spanish—Fundamentos de la Fe—to those in our congregation every Tuesday evening.*
- *Pray for Steve's discipleship of some of the homeless believers — Geovani, Jose, Alberto, Elvis, Glenn, Luis (2), Boanerges & Javier.*
- *Pray that the Lord would save some of the unsaved homeless.*
- *Pray that the Lord would raise up additional individual/church partners to complete our financial support raising.*
- *Pray for our future ministry in Chile and future church plant in Santiago.*
- *Pray for Alie as she studies at UCLA and works as an EMT.*
- *Praise for God's faithfulness in all aspects of our lives.*
- *Praise for wonderful family trip together with Alie in August.*

### Our Support Needs

**Missionary Facts** — We have now learned the literal meaning of “a raise” in the missionary world. A raise is not an increase in our household income, but rather, is only additional support that we are required to raise to offset additional costs that we are charged or incur. In reality, there is no monetary benefit like “a raise” that is earned in the normal business world.

**Our current monthly deficit in support is now about \$800 per month.**

This is due to the following reasons:

1. Just before leaving for CR our monthly support budget was raised \$250 for increased cost of living here in CR.
2. Our home office amount that we pay monthly recently increased by \$234 due to our agency's board decision to increase the percentage that we are charged monthly to cover our agency's home office overhead from 6% to 10%. This is still relatively low compared to other agencies. This increase was necessary because of the current low interest being earned on missionary account balances, and is insufficient to cover the overhead, despite previous budget cuts.
3. Unfortunately, due to the current economic conditions our monthly donor support has declined by \$325 since we have arrived in CR.

### Language Learning Update

Almost seven months ago we arrived in Costa Rica with little capability to speak the Spanish language. But now, as every week goes by, we continue to be more fluid in our conversational Spanish. We continue to testify of our Lord's faithfulness, as we labor in our language acquisition. There are times when we are elated and surprised by our progress, but at times the Lord humbles us to keep our dependence and focus on Him. Based on our mid-term progress, we are very excited about where we might possibly be at the end of language training.

Leslie continues to enjoy the ladies and childrens ministries at our

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*Steve preaches to the homeless in Spanish from Proverbs 1:7-33 about the consequences that result from a lack of the fear of the Lord.*

### Teaching Repentance to the Homeless — A Message for All of His Ambassadors

Please take the opportunity to read the upcoming supplemental article by Steve regarding his ministry perspective of the homeless, and experience in teaching of them the role of repentance in salvation and the Christian life.

In addition, we have other one-time language school and moving costs to be covered. One-time gifts can also be applied to the ministry shortfall. **Please let us know should you desire to help us reach this support level.**

### *Continued from page 1*

church and has been meeting more frequently with the younger Tico women in our home. She has a great joy helping with the needs of ladies, youth, and children in our church, and fellow missionary students at our school. She now has a language tutor to help with develop areas where she needs improvement.

During the first trimester, **Stephanie** developed many close friendships with her MK (missionary kid) classmates, but almost all of these families had completed their training and moved on to their respective fields of ministry. Thankfully, the Lord has provided many new friends this tri. She enjoys serving in the worship band at school, and working in the children's ministry at our church.

**Alie** came to visit us for two weeks in August during break. We all enjoyed five days at a couple of beaches on the Pacific Ocean together, where we experienced some of the beauty of CR, plants, and animals. She has begun her second year of nursing studies at UCLA. She maintains a very full schedule of classes along with a job as an EMT on the UCLA campus and as an EMT at Six Flags in Santa Clarita.

**Steve** continues to stretch his language acquisition by putting himself in uncomfortable situations. After two months here in CR, he preached some sermons from a transcript, and he now teaches a Fundamentals of the Faith discipleship course in Spanish from an outline every Tuesday night at our church. Out of the Sunday attendance of 70 people (of which many are young children), about 25 attend Steve's teaching on Tuesday. It is great blessing to teach the all-sufficient Word of God to believers, and see the spiritual growth and obedience in their lives as they seek to be pleasing to the Lord in everything!! Steve opted to take an alternative language class this tri, which requires him to be speaking with Ticos on various themes every week, and reporting to his teacher. He also has benefited from using a language tutor. All of these opportunities have helped his ability to speak the language with fluidity, but realizes that he needs to continue to develop his grammar and vocabulary, and ear for understanding Spanish. He also now preaches, teaches, and disciples the homeless three days a week at a park in San Jose.

### *Our Future Ministry Service*

- Teaching at the Facultad Teologica Biblica Bautista (seminary/institute) in the 4 year day program to prepare men for the pastorate, and to provide leadership training. Steve looks forward teaching in the areas of expository preaching, the biblical languages of Hebrew and Greek, Bible interpretation (hermeneutics), and theology.
- Teaching at one of the 2 year evening Bible training extension programs to develop leaders. There are currently 12 programs in place: 9 in local church settings in Santiago, 1 in Northern Chile, 1 in Ecuador, and 1 in Paraguay.
- Church planting.
- Equipping Chileno pastors: (1) to be expository preachers of God's Word; (2) with library resources to benefit their study of God's Word; and (3) with solid teaching materials to disciple believers in their Christian walk.
- Conducting and teaching biblical counseling.
- Teach modular classes at other ABWE seminary/institutes in Spanish speaking South America, as opportunities permit.

### *Our Burden*

*Should the Lord tarry and it be His will, it is our desire to help train the next generation of expository preachers in Chile and other South American countries to advance His Kingdom among the nations.*

We are convinced of the great need to provide good seminary training for pastors, so that they can be well equipped in rightly dividing the Word of God; be effective expository preachers; plant doctrinally strong churches; and, adequately shepherd the flock of God in Chile. After this season of training, we are humbled and excited for the opportunity to serve our Lord Jesus Christ in this way. We humbly invite you to prayerfully consider partnering with us as prayer and/or financial partners, as we seek to advance the Lord's kingdom in Chile and Spanish-speaking South America. We thank the Lord for your friendship, and we want you to know that it would be a special privilege for us to co-labor with you in this important ministry endeavor.

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