

The Schneider Testimonio

Serving 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



Prayer & Praise Letter

Christmas 2011 - Vol. 4, Issue 3

For today in the city of David there has been born for you a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. —Luke 2:11

Merry Christmas from Santiago, Chile! This semester has been a busy one for all of us.

Steve's schedule, from August until December, has become more involved, primarily in preaching and training the leaders in our church. At the seminary, he taught courses in **Expository Preaching** and **Church History**. The students continue to grow in their ability to study the text and preach it expositionally. Steve is further encouraged when they share with him how they are applying what they have learned in their ministries. The first Saturday in December was our graduation service for our seminary. This year we had 12 graduates with over 100 students in the various programs.

Throughout most of the semester Steve had been working with the leaders at our church on **Monday nights**, where he has been teaching them a biblical philosophy of ministry. It has been a great encouragement to see how the leaders have been teachable and been willing to make changes, based on teaching from Scripture. It is a slow process, and takes great patience and much instruction, but it is bearing fruit. We also have been able to work through our statement of faith and constitution. We thank the Lord for all of your prayers for our leaders. He has greatly blessed our time together and relationships. **Wednesday nights** Steve has been preaching or teaching during our prayer meeting. And for the better part

of a three month span between September through November he preached on **Sunday mornings** in our church or at other churches in the Santiago area. After teaching the leaders about expository preaching, Steve was humbled to be asked by our 70 year old pastor, Pedro Garrido, to preach through Ephesians verse-by-verse beginning in March after the summer break (don't forget that our seasons are opposite of that in the States). Steve has also been asked to provide the preaching/teaching schedule and material for the upcoming year, as well as for other leaders and groups in our church.

In October our seminary, along with our missions agency and a Chilean missions agency, sponsored an international missions conference, our 4th annual. The first evening of the conference there were 400-500 people in attendance, mostly from some local churches around Santiago, but also from other parts of Chile and some of the Chilean missionaries from other countries. As has been the case every year, some of our seminary students and others who attended the conference, expressed a desire to consider serving the Lord in missions. It is humbling and encouraging to see believers from countries other than our own have a hunger for advancing the gospel throughout the world. Also, **two weeks later** our seminary had an evening youth program to promote our seminary and we were amazed that the Lord provided over 200 people in attendance, when we were expecting about 100. We are praying that the Lord will provide another incoming seminary class like last year's of 18 or so new students.

During the first weekend in Novem-

Praises

- *Completion of the semester and first year at the Facultad.*
- *An enjoyable trip and safe travels to Puerto Varas in southern Chile with Alie, as well as time with fellow missionaries, the Druckenmillers.*
- *For Alie's visit during the holidays.*

Prayer Requests

- *Pray for the Christmas program/outreach this Sunday at San Nicolas church, and for Stephanie's music ministry.*
- *For an all day family ministry opportunity next Wednesday, December 28th in Pirque and for the salvation of souls to be saved and others to grow in their walk in the Lord.*
- *For Alie's housing situation in the UCLA area and full-time job search opportunities.*
- *For continued growth in our Spanish language abilities.*
- *For our financial situation. We are currently about \$650 short in our monthly support and about \$8,000 in unreimbursed expenses from getting settled and US dollar fluctuations.*

ber, we also had the opportunity to spend an enjoyable 2-day retreat near a mountain lake with everyone in our church, plus some unsaved family who they brought as guests. It was a great time of preaching and teaching from the book of Jonah, as well as a time of fellowship and worship. We also stay quite busy with other activities related to the seminary, our missionary team, and Stephanie's school.

Leslie taught one of the English classes at our seminary again this semester, switching from the highest level of English proficiency to the entry level. Although she did not have any other full-time position, she was always busy helping at Stephanie's school, be it substitute teaching, sometimes for weeks at a time and trying to help with whatever need in the school and seminary. She is getting a lot of experience in planning the food and beverage service for various events. Leslie continues to be involved in the women's group at our church and occasionally speaks there or in other churches to the ladies. She spoke to a children's one day conference on the Parable of the Talents.

Stephanie has been doing great in every way, academically, socially and spiritually. She been very busy with her senior year coursework, including a science fair research paper, a presidential debate, and an art class which she thoroughly enjoyed. She continues to serve on the worship team at school, and has been busy with bake sale and yard sale fundraisers to partially fund their senior trip, a tradition in Chile and at her school. The Spanish grammar class that she took in June-August has helped her immensely in her Spanish language abilities. God has provided several ministry opportunities in recent months, such as in children's ministry and performing special music at some of our ABWE churches where Steve was the guest preacher. She gave her testimony at a children's missionary camp in July (part English/part Spanish) and participated in a children's evangelistic outreach in a park near our church. Stephanie is also active in her youth group at church, and since our retreat in November is saying that she "loves our church". Stephanie currently plans to return to the Los Angeles area next July/August to attend The Master's College.

Alie will be finishing up her last two quarters at UCLA and is excitedly anticipating her graduation in June. In the meantime, she will begin her senior preceptorship at the Cedars-Sinai Emergency Room in January and start applying for full-time nursing jobs shortly after. Please pray for patience, diligence and direction in the coming months as she pursues new nursing graduate and nurse residency programs for a position in emergency and trauma nursing in various states throughout the U.S.!

These last six months have been more challenging for us in various ways, but our Lord is always faithful!!

We will send pictures from our various ministries soon!!

Our Current Needs

Santiago Christian Academy has an *urgent* need for school teachers, short-term and career, for the foreseeable future, including for the new school year beginning this August 1.

Schneider Ministry - Due to the 10% lower exchange rate in the US dollar to the Chilean peso since we arrived a year ago, our living expenses have increased, and we have additional unreimbursed settling costs. Also, we would like to raise additional funds for translation of Steve's teaching materials for the seminary, reimbursement of the purchase of \$3,800 of new Spanish library books, and other teaching materials to use in our church ministry. We have a goal at the seminary to enrich our curriculum with more library (research/writing) assignments.

Our Seminary has many deferred maintenance items and needed repairs to our 8 year old facility, including the need for electrical upgrades to support an expanded night program. If you would like to help with this need you can direct payments to ABWE under the project Theological Baptist Bible Seminary—Santiago, Chile.

Our 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 to teaching in the areas of expository preaching, the biblical languages of Hebrew and Greek, Bible interpretation (hermeneutics), and theology.
- Teaching in the 2 year evening Bible training extension programs to develop church lay 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 and strengthening churches.
- Equipping Chilean 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 (nouthetic) counseling.

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