

A Whole New Year

As a snowy January rolls around, my wife and I are getting ready to return to Colombia. We have been in the states for only three weeks. We will be here only another two and a half weeks before returning to Colombia so as to get back to the work to which the Lord has called us. This was a short trip up primarily so I could do a short-term interim ministry at one of our supporting churches. It is short term because they had already made arrangements to have different people preaching before they ask for me. They requested three weeks, hoping to have a new minister by the time I would finish those weeks of preaching for them. Plus they were aware that I normally return to Colombia in mid to late January and they did not want to interfere with that schedule. Also, my step son, Daniel, needs to be back to start his final semester of vet school.

This trip has been the first time my wife and stepson have seen snow. Needless to say, they were excited when snow first began to fall. While those of us who have lived up here find it something that makes life more difficult at times, for someone who has never seen snow, it is an exciting event the first time they have ever actually seen snow. Both Nohelly and Daniel have found the snow to be one of the highlights of this winter trip up to the States. It has been fun watching them get excited at seeing it for the first time and I am glad that we have had some decent snow this winter.



I also used the time to hold meetings. My first important meeting was with Mark Stroud, one of the members of the board of directors for Hasten International Medical Mission. We met at his home in the mountains of southern Virginia. We discussed the activities of this past year and planned for the future of the medical and evangelistic work in Colombia and worked on the budget for next year and we planned to move forward. While it was a grey and hazy day, the view from his mountaintop residence was still spectacular.



Another one of those meetings was with Dave Lucas and the team that will be coming to Colombia this March. We plan to hold several meetings at the camp, visit churches, and do some video productions for publicizing the ministry of the camp so as to more effectively share the excitement that this ministry brings. Dave has been heading up the internet and publicity aspect of presenting our ministry to the churches and so this was also an important meeting as we plan the publicity for sharing the excitement of what God is doing in Colombia with those of you in the American church.

Still another meeting was with Jon and Kathy Underwood. They head up Palabra de Cristo, a Spanish publication ministry specializing in higher level academic works in Spanish to be used for leadership training. We discussed works in project, recent publications, and needs for the future. We are planning for the Spanish literature production for the work in Colombia and all over Latin America and even here in the United States now as our Spanish speaking population has burgeoned. At the same time, we are salvaging some of the very good materials that had been published by Gordon Clifford until his passing.

As we head back to Colombia, we encourage you to partner with us in this important ministry. We can only do the work there when many of your share with us by praying for the work and supporting our efforts there. This year we have lost some churches that proved not to be faithful and so need faithful partners to be able to continue and move forward. Perhaps God is leading you to step in for sustaining the future of this exciting work!

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