



THE BONHAM LINE

July 2020

30 SECOND UPDATE (see articles for more details)

- An update from our ministry partner, Rodny, and his wife as they continue in quarantine in Medellin, Colombia.
- The borders are still closed and we cannot move yet! We continue in “virtual ministry” to our brothers and sisters in Peru and Colombia while we await the reopening.
- Both Peru and Colombia have been hit hard by Covid-19, and many of our friends there are suffering. Please pray for them as they face significant struggles that they would be strengthened by the Lord in the midst of this crisis.

UPDATE FROM RODNY & SARA

****Rodny is a national partner who has been working with us since 2018 at the Seminary. Your financial support also supports Rodny & Sara's ministry. This update is my translation of his letter.****

Brothers, sisters, and friends, we greet you in the name of the Lord Jesus. By the grace of God, your prayers and support, our work in Colombia continues prospering.

About one month ago, my wife and I began renting a new-to-us house. We are very excited, because after two years of marriage, we finally have a house where we can enjoy our own space and privacy! We initially lived above the Seminary in Peru, and then again lived on campus the first few months after our arrival in Colombia. Even though the experience was good, without a doubt this is much better! It is a new stage in our lives that we are now very much enjoying.

Sadly the quarantine (also called “obligatory confinement”) has not ended here in Colombia. We can only leave one day of the week to buy food and medicine, and it has been extended until August 1. Religious and social gatherings are prohibited. Pray for us and this situation, because this has caused many difficulties.

Even so, despite this unfavorable situation, I have continued working with the projects of Seminario Bíblico Reformado and also with Nueva Providencia Bible

School. Our house is only 500 meters from the campus. I continue teaching hermeneutics, and the students have matured a lot and applied much of what they are learning in their personal lives and ministry. I hope to continue collaborating with this project in the future.

Sara also started studying to become a geriatric nurse, an area of healthcare that focuses on the care of seniors. She is hoping to make this her vocation with the purpose of helping and serving in this sector.

We are truly grateful to the Lord for the privilege of being able to serve Him in Colombia and undertake projects that serve the benefit of the Kingdom. Thank



Rodny & Sara in front of their newly rented home.

ABOUT US

Nate & Nikki Bonham have been serving in South America with Mission to the World since 2012 in the area of church planting. With their three children, they are based out of Medellin, Colombia.

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you for your prayers and support so that the Word of God would be extended into the Medellin, Colombia.

UPDATE FROM THE BONHAMS

Another month has passed, and the Zoom fatigue grows. We are thankful that ministry has not slowed down, but we would be lying if we didn't confess it grows increasingly more wearisome without having face-to-face interaction.

Our partnership with "City to City" (a ministry of Redeemer Church, New York) usually has an annual in-person meeting. This year we had to host it virtually. I was encouraged to hear from dear brothers all of Latin America battling forward in ministry, not only to continue sustaining their own churches, but also with eyes towards multiplication.

We continue to meet regularly for study, discipleship, and counseling with friends in Peru and Colombia, but lately these meetings have included more and more time set aside for lamenting and prayer. It is painful to hear about what is going on there and to be so far away.

Covid-19 cases continue to grow at alarming rates in both Arequipa, Peru (where we've been serving) and Medellin, Colombia (where we are headed). The reports become more and more grave each day. The virus has hit Pastor Gustavo (you might remember his testimony from past newsletters) and his family in Arequipa. He is seriously ill, but because there is no room in the hospital, he must fight the virus from home. Another friend reports the emotional struggles of having to watch people as they die in the hallways of the hospital as she labors as a nurse. There is just not enough room for the patients.



Cars used as hospital beds because hospitals are full (note the green oxygen tanks)

Just this morning, there are articles about hospitals being above capacity and patients having to turn their vehicles or rented taxis into makeshift hospital beds outside of the hospitals. If you can find oxygen tanks, they are grossly marked up, sometimes to 500%. The medical systems simply can't handle this pandemic. Though the Coronavirus has become a political football in the US, in South America it is a fight for survival.

Though September 1 is still the official date for Colombia allowing international flights to operate, we grow increasingly doubtful of the timeframe. Even local quarantines continue to be extended week after week. Though we would love to be boarding a plane in September, it seems unlikely that much will change in just a few weeks.

We continue to plan for leaving the US and going to Colombia, but we also hold those plans loosely knowing they are prone to change. At this point, we are tired—tired of seeing our Latino brothers and sisters in pain, tired of "virtual" ministry, tired of the upheaval we see around us here in the US. As I imagine many of you are, we are crying out, "Come, Lord Jesus."

Finally, Nikki and I want to say thank you to all of you who intercede for us before the throne. We want to say thank you to all of you who faithfully continue to financially support us. We know that each one of you are likely facing your own struggles and uncertainties. But let me assure that your sacrifice is not in vain. We wish we had the time (and energy) to share all of the many ways that the Lord is at work right now. May we all rest in the Lord's sovereign hand over this pandemic and any other trials we might be facing. May we be encouraged in Him as we await the day when there will be no mourning, nor crying, nor pain, nor death. (Rev. 21:4)

And as always, please join us in continuing to pray for Nikki's sister, Lacey, as she battles glioblastoma brain cancer. While we are increasingly anxious to get back to South America, we are also grateful to be near Lacey's family during this time.



You can donate towards the ministry in South America directly from your phone... simply scan this QR code with your phone's camera.