

Dear Friend

Greetings from Caracas ☺. Yes, it's been two weeks since I arrived from Colombia and I want to say thanks to each one of you that prayed for me during these past weeks. June was a very exciting and busy month and I will share with you some of the highlights during that time ...

**DNA Ministry:** After my return from Asia I had one week to finish preparing for Darrow's conferences in Caracas. He arrived on June 6 and stayed in Venezuela for 9 days. During that time we held two conferences. The first one was for pastors and church leaders on the topic: Biblical Worldview and Discipling Nations. Around 75 people representing over 20 churches and a few Mission ministries met for three days and everyone was very impacted by the message. Many expressed that now they have a new understanding of the role of the church and the need to penetrate our cultures -by ministry outside of the four walls of our temples- in order to disciple our communities and nation. Below you can see two pictures during the teaching time and a group discussion analyzing a lie of the enemy (machismo) in our society.



The second conference was with the Apostolic Group. This teaching covered part of the Biblical Worldview material and part of the material called Nurturing Nations, which deals with a lie of the enemy that tells cultures that men are superior to women. This teaching helps to restore the true image of God on men and women and to lift up the value of women as nurturer of nations. The teaching was really a blessing to the people and after a session called "The Maternal Heart of God" many believers were crying since the Holy Spirit was ministering to them in a powerful way. I praise God for bringing Darrow to Venezuela and I appreciate your prayers for the work of follow up I need to do with these pastors and church leaders.

After these conferences I traveled to Colombia for two weeks. I went to a place called Turbo, where YWAM coordinated a week of Humanitarian Outreach. Turbo happens to be a poor town where hundreds of families settled after fleeing from the army conflict existing in Colombia. These people lost everything and the army groups even killed many of their family members. YWAM took doctors, medicines, clothes, and about 100 believers participated on this special outreach (most of them from Colombia and a few representing 7 other countries). They worked doing children ministry, hair cuts, family counseling, legal advice, repairing two homes, digging a well for water, cleaning a ditch and the garbage on a critical section of the town. During these activities the local churches were involved supporting the work and collaborating as much as possible.

My main participation was to teach a four days training for pastors and church leaders. We had an average of 40 believers attending the conference and they represented about 10 churches. The last day was very interesting because the topic was on government and we had a few of the town leaders attending the morning conference. We took a look at some of the Bible verses about government principles, and we also discussed some of the Biblical Principle taught by the reformers during the Reformation in Europe. It was a really rich time! I praise God for this training opportunity since all the pastors and church leaders were very motivated and renewed in their minds by the new ideas they were discovering. They expressed ideas such as: We need to repent and work in unity in order to really become salt and light in our community! My concepts about the Great Commission, the church, and its role on discipleship have completely changed! Now I see clearly that we are called to penetrate every area of society!

The last night was very special because they celebrated a “Peace Covenant” involving the community. Many of the homeless people that lost family members were there giving testimony of their decision to forgive the people that had killed their loved ones. There was a public act of repentance for all the violence in Colombia, and key leaders from the community, representing the different sectors of society, made a covenant before God and the people to work for peace and unity in Colombia. The closing act was a prayer and communion as a singer did a beautiful song. Every body participated of communion taking a piece of bread and a grape from a beautiful Cross on the table and it was a really powerful act of worship and covenant for peace!!! (You will see the cross on a picture below).



YWAM Group from Colombia & 7 nations



Medical check up



Training with pastors and Church leaders



Communion Table during closing night

There was only one sad thing that took place during my trip to Colombia: My PC was stolen. Yes, I lost my PC with all my information during my trip. I don't really know how it happened but somebody subtracted my PC from my carry on at the airport. Well, things like that happen in Latin America and I should have been more careful because the enemy was after my computer since my trip to Asia. Thanks to God I had my pen drive with me so I was still able to use my material for the training and God was glorified. Now, I just have to ask your prayers and support since I need to get a new PC. If you want to make some contribution to help me get another PC please feel free to contact me or the Harvest office. Thanks in advance for your prayers and support!

**Family news:** I praise God because everyone in my family is doing well. We had a family gathering the second Sunday of June and besides enjoying a nice barbecue and some Chinese sweets I brought from Hong Kong we had a good time seeing my pictures from my trip to Asia. My brother Henry just finished his master on Education and he continues working for the government, as well as my brother Higor, who works for the Ministry of Environment. My niece Darimar finished high school with excellent grades. She wants to be a dentist and hope to start the university next year. My sister Marisela doesn't want to continue teaching English at the same school were she was working, so she appreciate your prayers for new doors concerning job options. Well, we are planning to spend a week vacation at the beach house in Todasana, so I appreciate your prayers for this family time the first week of August.

**Concerning me:** I'm doing fine, but I'm struggling with all the extra weight I got from my last trips. Some how it is very difficult to loose weight, but very easy to gain it!!! Please, pray for me about that because most of my old clothe do not fit me any more : ). On a more serious arena: I give thanks to God because since my return from Colombia I've been able to slow down a littler bit and I even get some rest. I've been using some time to take care of my car, which was hit by a motorcycle and also by a bullet on the ceiling. Thanks to God I was not inside the car when these things took place!

I also appreciate your prayers about God's guidance concerning ministry work this second part of 2009. It looks that in the next there months I'll be doing a lot with our Children Network and Christian Educators. I'm also planning to have two DNA trainings in other town in Venezuela. Please, pray that God's Spirit may be the one opening the doors for ministry and not just my own desire to be always very active.

Dear friend, Thank a lot for your partnership on ministry and all your prayers and support! May God bless you in special ways! Please, let me know how you are doing and how to best pray for you. You are in my heart and prayers! Blessings ...

Your friend,

Xiomara