

Commission International: Prayer
August 2006
Not to us, O Lord, not to us, but to Thy name give glory
because of Your lovingkindness, because of Thy truth. (Psalm 115:1)

Praises & Answered Prayer:

- Thank the Lord for the work of the college mission team last month.
- Thank the Lord for the first two evangelistic/discipleship small groups that have begun!

Commission International Ministry Requests:

- Pray for the Thursday night and Saturday afternoon Purpose Driven Life Studies that God would use them for the people to see their need for Christ and that He can give significance to their lives. Pray that God will use this and other studies to save those He is calling to Himself and to take them on to become mature disciples of Christ and foundational members of the new church.
- Pray for the planning of an evangelistic camp out weekend in September at Lichi's cabin in the sierras.
- Pray for individual and group discipleship times with those God is calling or will call to Himself.
- Pray for the team – David, Kristen, Coen, Scott, and Lichi – as they labor together to see God birth the Ekklesia Nueva Cordoba. Elizabet (Lichi) Estallo - Praise God for bringing Lichi to live in this area to be a light to this part of Cordoba. She is from the church here that we are attending on Sundays, Iglesia Cristiana Evangelica de Calle Rincon. Pray for her stringent work schedule as a biologist and for God to use her to reach co-workers and neighbors in Nueva Cordoba, as well as her role in discipleship.
- Pray for the team in these ways:
 - For God to strengthen and encourage the team through their study of the gospels (Harmony of the Gospels) on Saturday mornings
 - For Romans 6:4 to be a daily reality in their lives; that they would walk in newness of life, be transformed daily by Christ and be so consumed by Him that others would ever see Jesus in them.
 - For their passion to be making disciples, not just converts. Pray for discernment and fruitfulness in developing relationships.
 - For visa issues: for God's wisdom in partnership with a church that will help with religious visas. Praise God for being able to pay for extended tourist visas.
 - For God's provision of a meeting place, as they are believing God to quickly grow the ministry.
- Pray for David, Kristen and Coen in their family life: to guard their time together; to be protected physically, emotionally and spiritually; to be firmly rooted and grounded in Christ each day. Pray for David in his responsibility as the overseer of both his family and the ministry. Pray for Kristen's language studies. Pray for Coen as he grows and turns his crawling into walking.
- Pray for Scott Jackson as he works with David to begin the church plant. Pray for Scott's language studies and for open doors for ministry.
- Pray for Dan & Millie as they anticipate Ana Carleton's birth this month. Millie has gestational diabetes – pray for a safe delivery and for their peace in the Lord.
- Pray for Jaclyn Lyles as she continues to raise support and has delayed her departure for Cordoba until early 2007.
- Lastly, and so importantly, pray for these Argentines who have been exposed to the Gospel recently – this is the work of the harvest! Pray for relationships to be developed that would lead to their salvation:

Gabriela “Gaby” Bertolino, the Fulfer’s neighbor in apartment 3a; praise God for her salvation and the hunger she has to know more of the Scripture. She has begun sharing her new faith over the phone with her mom who is in Peru. Pray for her mom’s salvation. Her name is Margarita. Pray for Gaby’s discipleship with our group, with Kristen and with Lichi.

Lorena Mercado – Praise God for putting a desire in her heart to know Him and the plans that He has for her. The first day we met her she told us that she didn’t want to be converted. Later we talked about that in the small group, and she knows that the Holy Spirit is working in her life. Please pray that the Holy Spirit would reveal the grace of God to her unto salvation.

Ivanna Gorly – Praise God that He has been at work in her since she was teaching the summer team Spanish. She is from a very Catholic community in Santa Fe. The leadership of the Holy Spirit has been very evident in this girl’s journey and we are praying that she would have the courage to open her life completely to Christ and allow Him to be her Sovereign Lord. Pray that His grace would be revealed.

Javier Lozano – Praise God that Javier has been very consistent in coming to our meetings. In fact, it seems that he wants to hang out with us a lot, especially with Scott. At first, it seemed that he just wanted to speak better English so that he could get a job. He seems to always give an answer that he thinks you want to hear. Please pray that the Word of God would penetrate his heart, and that he would be humbled to come to Christ with his whole life.

Fabian Mendez – We play soccer with him sometimes and he has recently started hanging out with us more. It seems that he has a heart for God, but does not like organized religion and he does not understand grace. Please pray that God would break down any barriers and show him His grace.

Guillermo Campbell – the Fulfer’s neighbor in 7b. He works for the Brazilian Consulate and speaks very good English and Portuguese. He is a very personable guy and likes to hang out with us, but he says that the Bible study isn’t for him. He claims to have no interest in spiritual things, but during a trip to the sierras he asked David to explain why he believes in Christ. We think God is working in his life. He says he believes in Christ, but his biggest barrier to knowing Christ is that he knows that believing is ultimately by faith. It’s people like this that we are trying to befriend and minister to. We praise God that he has been open with David and the rest of us.

Natalia Brizuela – she is the manager of an important café in Patio Olmos, the main shopping mall that connects downtown with Nueva Cordoba. David met her at the café during a vision trip three years ago. We praise God for her openness to the Gospel. She has attended one of the Thursday night meetings, and is one of the people that will help begin the Saturday study. Pray for continued openness and mostly that Christ would speak to her heart.

Fernando Maggi – until a recent move he was a neighbor of the Fulfer’s. Praise God that he has given us an open door for opportunity with him, even though he says he wants nothing to do with God and only desires to party his life away. On one occasion recently he came over to have dinner with us before going to a “bolichi” (club). A couple of days later Gaby saw him coming from the university and asked, “Como te fue?” How was it? He thought she was asking about the club, but she was asking about a test he was supposed to have taken. He responded, “It was a drunken fest.” She said, “Excuse me, but I was asking about your exam... What’s happening to you? Why do you always live for the party?” He was silent. We believe he is hurting inside and wanting to fill his void with something (evil), but that God will only let him go so far. We saw this as a way the Holy Spirit is restraining evil in his life. Pray for continued open doors with him, even when he is hard to track down sometimes.

Jonaton Mayorga – He is a first year law student from a southern province. Scott regularly works out with this guy. He started out in a small group asking many questions and wanting to argue, but it seems that he has become more open. One night we prayed Psalm 39 with him after discussing for several hours, then later Scott was with him and his atheist roommate Martin while

Jonaton began sharing that God truly does exist. His roommate said, "I don't understand, you used to think like me." Pray for God to continue to use Scott, and that the Lord would continue to open their hearts to more of His truth.

Laura Batalla and Federico – Laura is in her last year in high school, but maturity wise seems like she is out of college. Her boyfriend is 23 and owns a t-shirt shop with his brother. They have sought counsel about their relationship from the Fulfer's. They have been very open to us having met with us on a few occasions and want to form part of our Saturday study. Pray for the Word of God to penetrate their hearts and for the Holy Spirit to guide them into a relationship with Christ.

Carolina – she is an English student that met the summer group while they were here. She is 19 and lives in a distant neighborhood. She is interested in the Saturday Bible study group, but is in training during the month of August. We are not sure where she is spiritually and we now that she has been evangelized by the Jehovah's Witnesses, but we do not know how much of this she has had. Please pray for open doors to meet with her to begin asking those types of questions and for continued openness to the gospel and to the Saturday Bible study.

Romina – pray for her as she has closed the door to communication. She is in a class with Lorena Mercado, listed above. She has told David in an email that her Catholic beliefs are different than ours' and that is why she would not want to hang out with us. We believe that the Spirit is convicting her of sin and that she is running from God. Pray that God would tackle her and break down the fallow ground of her heart.

Maria Laura and Lucas – pray for this young couple that are dating. They are open to us, but both have to work a lot so it is hard to find time to share with them.

Fernanda – we met them in the park while the group was here. Pray for this young lady from Santiago del Estero. She seems open, but has been hard to get a hold of since vacation time.

Nicolas – we met them in the park while the group was here. Pray for this guy. We are trying to find time to hang out, but his schedule has been very full lately. Pray for an open door for the Word with him.

Jose Luis – he crept into many of our meetings while the group was here. After David discovered he was a Jehovah's Witness they started peacefully talking about the deity of Christ and also the Trinity. Working with someone like him is always a long process, and he needs to be open to understand that his religion is false. Until now he has not been open to this, but we are praying that God would work in His life and literally snatch him from the fire. Please pray for this also.

Please also pray for the guys we play soccer with sometimes, but have not been able to spend any time with them outside of that activity yet. Some of them are: Matias, Christian and Maxi.

Pray for the guys that are forming an American Football team. Scott has been very helpful in helping them form the team and coaching. They have asked Scott to be their quarterback and he is praying through how to reach out to them more.

Pray also for some other people to follow-up/ continued follow-up: Alejandro Bono, Romina Giordano, Laura Nontiel, Paulo, Noelia, Mary Lu, Nicolas, Ana, Emi, Claudia, Elena, Solange, and many others.

A final thought...

Dear Prayer Partners,

Do you find it easy to lose your focus in prayer? Do you find it difficult to maintain that sense of urgency and need that drives you to communion with your Heavenly Father? I confess I do.

Prayer is a difficult labor. But aren't you glad that God uses it to bring forth a precious fruit: His glorious will!

As you read over this month's prayer requests from Cordoba, let us be reminded that the need for prayer is very great. At the same time, let us be confident that God's glory made manifest in the salvation of many Argentines and the establishment of His church is something worth laboring for!

As we pray together, let us give thanks for the partnership that prayer gives us with David, Kristen, Scott and Lichi in spreading the Gospel and planting a church there in Cordoba. Thank the Lord for the precious privilege of interceding in agreement with many other brothers and sisters in Christ who have a heart for the nation of Argentina. And thank the Lord that He is hearing and answering those prayers -- all praise be to HIM!

Seeking to labor faithfully with you,
Libby Thomas, prayer coordinator