

THE ALVAREZ FAMILY

BBFI Missionaries to Uruguay, South America

Missions Month

August will be a Missions Emphasis Month at our church featuring works that we support in Spain and Argentina.

T.I.M.E.

Andres and Nicolas had an amazing experience on their Mission Trip. They came back with a renewed perspective of Ministry and life. Ministry in Spain and England is hard. We will feature them in our next prayer letter. Thank you to everyone who helped them go on the Missions Trip.

Emily's Trip

Emily was able to spend three weeks in the US with our oldest son Felipe. This was a blessed time for both of them, as they were able to do a road trip from Lynchburg to Springfield, visiting friends and enjoying good quality time together. Please continue to pray for Felipe as he is discovering adulthood and trying to manage school work and life.

Leaving Atheism

Marlon is from Venezuela but moved to Uruguay 8 years ago. He is a gentle, smart and very polite young man. He came to church with his mother and aunt (who got saved a few months ago and are being disciplined). Marlon stated that he didn't believe in the exclusivity of Christianity; he even stated "I am an atheist but am looking at different options". When I asked him "Why are you coming back to church?" He responded, "each Sunday when I come I get something out of the sermons". I also asked him what impressed him the most about the church and he said "The music", "Those songs have a message that speak to me". Marlon has developed a great friendship with our sons Andres and Nicolas. They hang out and spend a great time together. I sat with Marlon on two occasions and talked about the Gospel and his beliefs. The first time he said I have no interest in committing my life to one belief system. He went home with a book "God's Not Dead". He read it and came to a Wednesday youth night and told me that the historical Jesus impacted him.





Celebrating Growth

Sometimes pictures are a great visual tool that makes one reflect on what God is doing.

On Mother's Day in May we had 22 moms attending and on Father's Day we had 11 dads. I told Emily "we've have grown". There is still room for more of course but we are excited about what the Lord is doing. It is slow, yes, it is painful at times, yes, but it is growing. We now have a consistent youth meeting simultaneously with our prayer meeting on Wednesday nights. I remember the times when prayer meetings were attended by the pastors families and two or three more. Now we have a consistent group between 15-18 adults at the Bible study and prayer meeting. That is growth. We sent two young leaders to teens camp from the youth group. We have a group of teachers aids that are alternating each Sunday so Emily and Gabriela can enjoy the services. That is growth. In all these situations I mentioned, YOU HAVE A VITAL PART. You pray and you give and that results in the growth we are celebrating today!

We talked about manuscripts, extra biblical proofs of Jesus' existence and other historical proofs.

The second time I sat with him he told me that he was considering Christianity. He also said "I've seen this church mourn the loss of Mateo together, crying and laughing together, enjoying life together. I have never seen that in a group of people before."

The moment he said Yes to the Lord

Three Sundays ago (while Andres and Nicolas were in the US for their Missions Trip), Marlon raised his hand for salvation and expressed that he wanted to follow Jesus. When I texted Emily and the boys they were more than excited! It was a special time for the church and for our family. Marlon spent over 6 months attending church faithfully (even more than our members!). Now he is considering starting discipleship. Pray for Marlon as he starts walking in the faith. Pray for our sons as they develop a stronger Christ centered friendship with him. Also pray for his family as they grow together.



The very same day they boys arrived from their Mission Trip, they headed to Winter Camp.

One of our elderly ladies, EMMA, attended different churches for over 20 years. Two weeks ago she made a comment that sparked a conversation with Glenna (Emily's mom). They agreed to meet up at church one morning to talk about her salvation. During that conversation different topics emerged. She thought her baptism had saved her. She didn't understand the concept of the triune God. After Glenna showed her in the Scriptures, Emma realized that she had never placed her faith in Jesus as a Savior. We praise God for Glenna's initiative to have this conversation and for Emma's salvation!