

Swanson Update February, 2008

Greetings from the Swanson family!

Thank you for keeping us and the ministry in Colima, Mexico in your prayers.

Family News (New baby Nov. 4)

We praise God for the birth of Titus Stanford Swanson on Nov. 4, 2007 in Colima, Mexico. Titus was born with a club foot, and we are with him as he undergoes treatment at the University of Iowa Hospital Clinic. The treatment involves a series of casts to set the foot, a minor tendon surgery, and then the wearing of a foot brace for 3 or 4 years. We plan to return to Mexico after his last cast in mid-February. We are thankful to the Lord that we live in such an age when such corrective treatments are possible.

Charissa is in the middle of 4th grade in home school. She does especially well in reading, writing and science. She has the best Spanish accent in the family. Lois is in kindergarten and likes listening to stories, coloring, playing board games, and going to the playground. Both girls love to spend time with their new baby brother.

Real Centenario

In the fall we were able to make contact with a family in Real Centenario, who used to meet in a Christian home group, but had stopped meeting 3 years ago. We talked with them and they agreed to start meeting with us. Now there are three adults and 1 boy regularly attending. We have had other visitors to the group as well. Pray for a man to step forward who Jeff could train to be a leader for the group.

Villa San Sebastian

Marcos, who was baptized in May of last year, is now leading the Villa San Sebastian group. Jeff has been training Marcos and helping him prepare the Bible teaching material. Marcos demonstrates a real gift for the teaching of God's Word and has grown tremendously in his new role. It has been exciting to see the progress he has made.

In January, The Lord caused an amazing breakthrough in this home group. Three young people had been attending the group meetings at times, and had heard the Word being taught. Then one Thursday night when all three were present, they heard a complete presentation of what the Bible teaches about salvation from sin and eternal life. The Holy Spirit moved in their hearts, and all three young persons made a commitment to follow Christ as Lord and Savior. Jeff challenged the three new Christian believers to follow the Biblical command to be baptized. Pray that Daniella, Alejandro, and Eb will be baptized soon and also grow in their knowledge and love for Jesus Christ.

Comala

Bernardino and Alejandra are faithful new believers who attend the home group with their two children. Jeff has been training Bernardino to lead the Bible teaching time. A person of peace has also allowed us to use his home for the group meetings while he is away in the United States. There has not been much response in the neighborhood to several outreach events and numerous invitations to the group meetings.

Pray for more openness in Comala to the gospel! We are praying about shifting our focus to a new neighborhood on the other side of this small town.

Prayer Requests

1. Pray for the Lord to bring healing to Titus's foot through the treatments he is undergoing at the clubfoot clinic and the long-term care.
2. Thank the Lord for Marcos and Bernardino, who have stepped forward to be trained as leaders of two home groups. Pray for a man to step forward to be trained as leader of the Real Centenario group.
3. Praise God for the three new believers in Christ. Pray for them to grow in their new faith in Christ and that they would agree to be baptized soon.
4. Pray for the university student group to grow and reach lost students for Christ.

Thank you for praying for us and for those giving to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering and Cooperative Program, the means the Lord has used to support us and other Southern Baptist missionaries on the field.

In Christ,

Jeff, Deliegha, Charissa, Lois, Titus Swanson

Colima, Mexico

www.swansonscoop.com