

Paraguay 2019



“Thou hast beset me behind and before, and laid thine hand upon me” (Psalm 139:5).

We knew that the Lord had placed His hand upon us when we were standing in line to board our plane with five minutes to spare. You see, our flight from Birmingham was cancelled when we were 10 minutes from the airport. We were told by multiple agents that our only two choices were to drive to Atlanta or take the next available flight on Saturday (two days later). To prevent us from missing our first medical clinic and church service (which would’ve happened had we waited until Saturday), John volunteered to pull Russell’s trailer with our luggage to the Atlanta airport. The AC went out in the vehicle, airport check-in was slow, and we were detained in security but we knew the enemy could not stop us because “Faithful is He that calleth you, who also will do it” (I Thessalonians 5:24).

We arrived in Paraguay with 17 bags each weighing 51 pounds, 6 rolling carry-ons & 7 backpacks. After putting 6 big suitcases through x-ray, the customs guy said, “Stop!”

We thought he wanted us to wait, but he wanted us to stop putting our bags through x-ray & go. They opened two bags, lifted up a box of crayons and never saw the bottle of vitamins. God answered your prayers & blinded their eyes with His hand upon us.



Two things kept resonating in me every single day: the faithfulness of God and the faithful prayers of God’s people! There are many examples but the most prominent

was on Friday night when we were heading to the new church plant. It was dark & raining. Jeff

yelled, “Watch out, Brian!” In that moment, Brian swerved, & we all saw us miss the grill of a tractor trailer by what seemed like a millimeter. To God be the Glory!



Romi is a single mother with two sons, ages 13 & 15. She was going to have to put her boys into an orphanage due to poverty but Esperanza Baptist Church stepped in and helped her. Romi and her sons had been sleeping on one mattress until the church gave her bunk beds so now the boys each have a nice



bed. She was so joyful but our hearts broke when we saw her little house with a leaking roof, openings everywhere for varmints to enter and her mattress, with holes chewed through it, still on the floor. The ladies, under Carlos’ supervision, began painting the block room that a Canadian mission team had built for her. We had plenty of primer but thought for sure we needed more green paint but the Lord stretched it.



We had just enough! Jeff & Brian mixed & poured a concrete pad for her new cabinets, a couple of steps and a walkway from their outhouse with the leftover concrete. Since the roof was beyond repair, we put a whole new roof on her house. “Now the God of peace...



make you perfect in every good work to do His will working in you that which is wellpleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ” (Hebrews 13:20-21).