

April - May 2020

Latin America

Johnny & Ivonne Cruz



Dear friend:

I am supposed to fly back to Honduras tomorrow. Actually, I was supposed to fly back a month ago. What the apostle Paul wrote is a great description of our situation: all things work together for good for those that love the Lord. Under the extraordinarily complicated circumstances that the world is facing at this moment, I am amazed at what God has done and what he has in store for us.

Ivonne and I came up to the US the second week of March for our son, David's wedding. Ivonne was staying several months to help our youngest son, who is blind, with his studies. I was supposed to stay in the US for a week. The wedding was beautiful! It was one of the greatest days of our lives.

I had scheduled a second trip to come back to the US for mission's conferences. That was tomorrow's flight back, when all the conferences would have been over.

It so happened that, as the coronavirus epidemic exploded, Honduras locked its borders. So I am stuck in the US! I believe this is God's mercies fully in display for me. You see, in Honduras people are only allowed to leave their houses once a week. I would be completely locked in, just me and Tintin the dog. I could not even serve the folks in our church if in need! Here in the US, I am with my family. And Charity Chapel in Pensacola, our home church, is doing what they always do, showing God's love in exceptional ways. And we are in contact with all of our teams and with the folks of the church way more than before the pandemic!

What's in store?

We are expecting as a result of this pandemic that the whole world will have a hunger and thirst for God's word like few times that we have experienced. That is right down our alley! And we are getting ready for it!

Up till now, we have focused on advanced discipleship and leadership training through small groups, where a mature leader serves as a model for emerging leaders, as they all study and discuss freely in a very close, informal setting, face to face, what they are learning.

That model will continue. But we believe we need to transition to online studies immediately. That is what we are focusing all of our guns on. Preparing for that is a big jump. We were doing it gradually, but now it has to be ready at the snap of a finger.

There are two pictures for you, part of our teams as we met over the internet to prepare them to make the most of this moment serving the churches. And to be fully prepared for the next step.

Please pray for us. There are a hundred questions we do not have answers to. But, with God's good hand upon us, we expect to see what we've never seen before.

Johnny & Ivonne

