



Puerto Rico Report

“The Lord is king, let the earth have joy; let all the islands be glad.” Psalm 97:1

Making the Move

The day has finally arrived! Anna and I arrived in San Juan’s metro area on October 12th, and will move into our apartment tomorrow. We are finally here! This is a realization of a dream Anna and I have had for a long time.

The dream actually began long before we met, when I was 16 years old. I was a junior in high school, taking third-year Spanish classes. I enjoyed studying the language, and my parents and others encouraged me to think about using it to do the work of God—not necessarily preach—but just to speak it well enough to teach

another person the gospel in the Spanish language. I had already thought about preaching, and it was that year in school that I decided to combine the two ideas and work toward preaching in Spanish.

Anna and I met at Florida College in 2000, and married in December, 2005. During that time I majored in Spanish at the University of Tennessee, Chattanooga, and took every opportunity to preach that I could. I came up three classes short of getting my degree, but learned the basics of the language. From the first, Anna supported my desire to pursue

preaching in Spanish, and she has encouraged me greatly all along the way.

Four years ago, God blessed us greatly in giving us the brethren at the West Rogersville church to work with. They have been a blessing in so many ways, showing us kindness and care, and being pa-

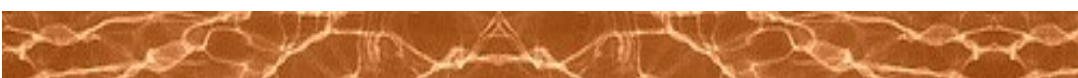


The Moving Crate Arrives at the House in Alabama

tient as I learned by experience what it really means to preach for a congregation of God’s people. Leaving was difficult for us. There are so many people we love here, but the group has been so supportive of our decision. Whatever the Lord accomplishes through us in Puerto Rico, it will be due in large part to the experience and

knowledge we have gained with the brethren in Rogersville. We are forever grateful to them.

A year ago this month, Anna and I boarded a flight for Puerto Rico to visit Tol and Dana Burk in San Juan. Today, after months of gathering support, making arrangements by phone and email, and preparing for our things to be packed, the day is here. A dream that began eleven years ago is becoming reality, and we are thankful to God, and to the many brethren who have encouraged us along the way.



October 30, 2009

Upcoming Plans

Upon arriving on the 12th, we have been extremely busy. We spent the first week and a half getting the big things done that we will need to do to settle in. We bought a car, found an apartment, and set up all the little services that we will need to communicate and live (cell phones, internet, etc.). Our belongings arrived on the



Us Attending Moca's Gospel Meeting

21st, and it has been a chore fitting three bedrooms, two baths and a full size office's worth of things into two bedrooms, one bathroom and 1/3 of an office's worth of space! But we are managing well, and are blessed to have gotten all of this

out of the way so quickly so that more of our time is freed to do more of the work we came here to do!

Since arriving I have begun teaching and preaching for the English-speaking church at Caparra Terrace. We are beginning a class on 1 Corinthians, continuing a study through the New Testament. I have also taught one Bible class in Spanish since being here, and though my Spanish still needs some work, it is wonderful to begin doing for the Lord what I have wanted to do for so long.

Also, along with Anna, I have tried to spend as much time as possible with the brethren, getting to know them. Their reception of us has been warm and loving, and we are very excited to be working with them.

My upcoming plans include individual studies with various members, passing out information about the church to the community and trying to make contacts for personal Bible studies. Be praying for us as we make these efforts to find open hearts to teach. Pray specifically for our landlords—they are wonderful people that we have already become good friends with. We hope to have opportunities with them down the road.



Our New Home: the Apartment

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