



THE HOFFMAN FAMILY

MISSIONARIES TO

COSTA RICA

February 3, 2022

Hello from the Hoffman family,

This is our last prayer letter from Costa Rica. I have to admit, after writing the last prayer letter; I sat down and cried for about 10 minutes after sending it. Thank you to everyone that sent an encouraging email or text; it was so appreciated. This last month has flown by full of packing, selling, and giving away many of our “things” we have accumulated the last five years here. It is difficult to say goodbye to everyone but God has shown me multiple times that we are making the right decision, especially with what the government and child services have been doing this past month. It’s pretty unbelievable how fast everything changes when certain people get a taste of power.

On to more positive things, we have started transitioning the church people to the new pastor and church the last few weeks. Outside of one lady, who is too attached to us, they all like Pastor Max and have said they will keep going to church. Lord willing, they will continue growing in their Christian walk. We had a baptism service the last Sunday in our building and it went pretty well. We did have to patch a few holes in the baptism pool on Saturday; part of being a missionary is being a handyman with whatever materials you can beg from the neighbors. We had four people lined up for baptisms; one said she wasn’t aware of it, even though I announced it four times in the weeks leading up. Another one’s mom said he couldn’t get baptized and a third didn’t show up. I was a bit disappointed with only having one, but then two others decided they wanted to be baptized so we ended up with three, which was a blessing.

Our most faithful man, Carlos, told me something that really touched my heart. He said, “Pastor, we will always remember you and your family. Other people come here and try to start a church but they only want money. Your family came here and just loved us, you didn’t ask for anything, you just came here and loved us. You taught us how to love each other and now it is our job to go preach and love others.” My first thought was: “I’m a Baptist, we’re not really known for being loving, we’re the crusty old men of denominations...” but it really struck me on a different note. Jesus loved the unlovable and we are supposed to as well. Tirrases is full of unlovable people, but God sent us there to reach them. I know that our church people will continue loving others and reaching them for Christ. In fact, Carlos was in the hospital over the weekend; we were very worried for him. When he got out however, I went and visited him, and he told me the above statement. Then he told me that he met a lady named Carmen in the hospital. She is dying of cancer at the age of 50 after just retiring from her teaching job. Carlos led her to the Lord because he told me he wanted to keep showing the love of God. So even though we are moving on, the light of Christ is still shining through the church people.

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**WITHAL PRAYING ALSO FOR US, THAT GOD WOULD OPEN UNTO US
A DOOR OF UTTERANCE, TO SPEAK THE MYSTERY OF CHRIST - COLOSSIANS.4:3**



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This is a difficult time, we love our church people, and they love us. Jen and the entire church connived together to throw a surprise going away party, somehow even the little kids in church kept the secret from me. We had a great time after the initial scare; they decided it would be funny to pop a balloon in a dark building that I thought was completely empty, as I walked in. Jen proudly has video evidence of me looking like I'm dodging a bullet in complete fear and shock, and our church people have laughed and passed this video around to everyone. The entire church showed up and even though there were many tears, there were many smiles, laughs, and hugs.

The Lord still has big plans for us; doors seem to be opening for us to continue on the mission field. Lord willing, I will take a trip to Belgium for a survey trip soon. I realize it seems like a quick turnaround, but I firmly believe the Lord is coming soon and there is a lot of work to be done for Him. Last year, before everything went haywire, I had set up a four month furlough, to report to some churches and that plan is still on. We are going to take a few weeks off to recoup and get our feet under us and then we will get going again. Thank you for all you've done for us, for the prayers, support, encouragement and yes, the love. We appreciate every one of you.

In Christ,

The Hoffmans to Costa Rica

Brent, Jen, Gabby, Joab, Keira, Vienna and Judah



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