

JON AND MICKI REHFELDT

PLANTING AND ASSISTING CHURCHES IN **URUGUAY**

Today, I'm feeling a little groggy. This is partly because, after trying to think and speak in Spanish for a few weeks, English doesn't seem to come so easily. It's also because, for some reason, my neck is sore and stiff today. Thankfully, I married a woman who was secretly a masseuse – I'm already feeling better. ☺

Leaving for Home

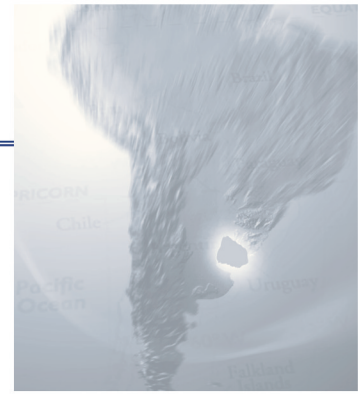
Micki and I recently discussed how the Christian Gospel is ultimately optimistic, since through it, history will consummate in the glorious reign of Christ. While this optimism is colored by God's judgments and human suffering, still, it should affect every facet of a believer's life. I would like to think that is why I was so optimistic about how quickly we could finish up packing before we left for Uruguay (ehh...not really). What I thought could be done in a few days, actually took the whole week, and I pulled my first true all-nighter before our flight. After saying goodbye to family and friends (with whom we've had the luxury of communicating via Facetime), we boarded our flight and slept intermittently. In Uruguay, we were met by a BWM welcoming party—the Perezes, Harmons, Garzas and Sharon Clark. Later that night, some Uruguayan friends hosted a barbecue for us through nearly midnight, and we were exhausted! We have since settled into our apartment and are becoming more familiar with where things are and how to get around. Every day, we board an *omnibus* crowded with strangers to study Spanish for four hours in the old, but beautiful part of Montevideo. On the bus and in school, we are reminded of our need for answered prayer.

Our Prayer Card

The first request on our prayer card is for “excellence using the Spanish language (Romans 10:14-15). Micki and I have begun in intermediate levels at *Academia Uruguay* and plan to continue through December. Of course, everything is taught in Spanish, so this helps our comprehension. In addition, the courses are very conversational, so we are encouraged to use what we know and what we are learning.

All the other requests on our prayer card have already become important needs in our lives here in Uruguay. For instance, we ask you to pray that we will be “controlled and compelled by the love of Christ, winning people to Him.” A handful of people on our long bus rides and a few taxi drivers have expressed clear interest in the Gospel. Though *Academia Uruguay* is a very secular school, we have had a couple of extended opportunities to describe the Gospel and explain our work to our classmates and teachers. Though our “full-time” ministry does not begin until we reach Colonia in January, we want a “fruitful, church-building lifestyle” right here in the capital. We will be successful as you pray.

We love you, appreciate you, and are praying for your churches.



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