

Check out my blog at:
www.alwardbound.blogspot.com

I have so much to share that it's hard to know where to begin. First with some very exciting news: My home assignment has just been confirmed for September through November of this year! I'll keep you posted as more details get worked out but please be praying as the time draws near. If you are interested in having me visit your church, please contact Linda Naves at: lnaves@cbmin.org

What's Been Happening

Since my update in December, quite a bit has happened. The National Jovenes Camp in Tarija (January) went really well. There were over 400 present from all over Bolivia! I was able to connect with many and was also the counsellor which allowed me to spend time with the girls – their trust was humbling. I've also been at my first adolescents (teens) camp in the La Paz district as part of the Vida Joven ministry (Young Life). It was my first real exposure to the ministry that the UBB (Bolivian Baptist Union) wants me to be involved in. We'll just say the Bolivian teens have the same amount of energy and many of the same attitudes as the Canadian youth ☺ It was a fantastic learning experience and opportunity.

I just hosted meetings of various Vida Joven leaders from various areas of Bolivia a couple of weeks ago. I've been given two specific tasks: 1) a research project for next 1.5 years regarding Bolivian teens – the leaders want a better understanding of them to improve communication and impact in the teens' lives. 2) Horizons – the online training of youth leaders started by Jeff Carter in Prague (CBM GFS) which uses mentors as well as classes. The 2nd task that came out of the meetings was to get the program translated and culturized for Bolivia. We're hoping that it'll be ready to for a pilot project by the fall.

I head to Tarija within the next couple of weeks to be part of the opening of Vida Joven in that area. I'll be there for a few days to meet with the leaders, meet at least some of the teens in order to start getting a feel for the research and its needs and parameters. It's crucial that I build trust with the teens.

Prayer ... Please pray for wisdom and perseverance as I begin the research project and it intensifies, as well that God will deepen trust and friendship with the teens which is necessary so that they'll be honest with me. Travel & Safety – the research will require me to travel to various districts. Spanish – I'm praying that I only have another 2 or 3 months left of classes.

Horizons – the beginning of the translating is this week.



Danny Cruz (center) – Leader of Vida Joven National teaching at the Adolescentes Camp in Sorata (La Paz District)

Financial Considerations

Many of you are already supporting me both financially and through prayer for which I am so encouraged and thankful. I pray that it continues throughout this new year. As well, if you know of anyone who would be interested in what's happening or would like to support my ministry, please forward this ministry update to them.

CBM continues to make it easier for you to partner with those on the field. You can contact Eileen Moore-Crispin from CBM at (905) 821-3533 or email her at eileenm@cbmin.org for more information and/or to make a donation.

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