

January 2004

We have so much to rejoice in the Lord for as we begin this new year of 2004. God has been abundantly good to us and we are so grateful.

I think that most of you know, I had by-pass surgery here in Argentina, on November 17, The doctors planned to do 4 or 5 bypasses, but they did 6!! Many of us were surprised, never having heard of that many before! Then it was the doctors' turn to be surprised at my rapid recovery, both in the hospital, and at each checkup. Everything has just gone extremely well. The Lord had the right time and the right place for this to be done. The surgeon said that it has given me an extension of 20 years! The Lord has given new strength to continue what I believe to be even a more effective ministry. I have been limited in some physical activities, while the breastbone was healing, (not raising my hands above my head, not driving for 2 months, etc.) but I have had more time in other areas. (The Devil) "thought evil against me, but God meant it unto good!" Genesis 50:20 (Harris' loose translation). I have no dietary restrictions, except what I call my "2-CM" diet, abbreviation for "comer Menos; Caminar Mas". In English that is "Eat Less; Walk More!" I have thus far lost about 50 lbs., and walk up to 3 miles per day. Before surgery, I had chest pain after 3 blocks, now I have NO chest pain or shortness of breath. AMEN!



As I write this letter, I am "between youth camps." I just got home at 8:30 pm last evening (Saturday) from taking 4 teens (15-17 yrs. old) to camp in Buenos Aires on public buses since our car was not running. Now the part has come in, the car is fixed, and I leave again Monday morning tomorrow at 5 am with the car. I praise the Lord for the good solid preaching. It was a tremendous blessing to see 45 Argentine teens kneel across the front of the auditorium giving their hearts to serve God in varied ways. I also had opportunity to preach to them twice in the week, and afterwards, one of my young men asked to talk to me, and he tearfully told me that God wants him to be a pastor! GREAT! Pray for Elias. (Elijah in English; ... good name for a preacher, don't you agree?) If you get this in time, pray for Claudia, Romina, Coco, our car and me as driver and counselor! We will be returning on Saturday the 31st with unbelievable traffic because the tourists in Mar del Plata will return home, and new ones will come in.

I am working these summer months with 2 of our young preacher boys for 3 hours a day, investing in them what I believe will help them to become better men: men that will strive to serve the Lord with all their heart. God has awakened in them

an even stronger desire to study and know the Word of God.

Our car is an import, and the part needed for repair was not available anywhere in the country, so a part had to be specially made. While the car was down, I used public buses to go to Balcarce for baptism classes.

Last September a young man that was separated from his wife made a profession of faith. He was able to get his wife to come to church, and she also made a profession of faith and I started classes with them. Since they were just living together, I told them they needed to get married before she should take him back, but he convinced her to move back in. Now he has not been coming to church and has left her again. She is coming faithfully and doing Bible studies. They have 4 small children and they are in desperate need economically. We would certainly appreciate your prayers for Jose' and Claudia's family. Also pray for Oscar (a young man, just saved in December services in Balcarce) who has moved to Buenos Aires for work. We are rally disappointed to lose Oscar, but we are praying that he will contact people there in Buenos Aires and start attending church there.

We also covet your prayers for a new location for the work in Balcarce. The rent contract will be up in May and we feel the need to relocate.

Thank you for supporting us both prayerfully and economically. These are perilous days, and we sense very much the need of your prayers for us. Pray as we pour our lives into the Argentines so that they will reach other for Christ.

Prayer Requests:

1. Our preacher boys and future preacher/missionary wives.
2. Travel to and from camp this week.
3. Oscar, Teresa, recently saved in services
4. Health for both Lois and myself to continue for many years.
5. Plans to re-open our Bible Institute in March.

Serving Him with Joy in our hearts,
Don and Lois Harris in Argentina