

# Bruce Martin Family Missionary Report

March 2013

## **New Year ushers in new opportunities**

As we look ahead to the open doors that God continues to provide, we are excited about having a part in God's plan to reach the world with the gospel. But, we have already had the privilege of experiencing some exciting moments in 2013.

In January, I had the honor to participate in the dedication of the new church building of the church in Limares, Chiapas, Mexico. Over 20

years ago, a group of brethren from the town of San Juan de Chamula, suffered extreme persecution for their faith. They lost everything and were kicked out of the tribe with only the clothing on their backs. Despite their desperate condition, they gave witness of their faith and stayed faithful to the Lord. God provided a place for them to start a new village and thus the church in Limares was

started. Their first church building was a thatched roof hut.

On January 19th, they celebrated the dedication of their third church building. Over 400 brethren from all over the state gathered to thank God with them. Not a single penny of foreign money was used to build this church. The quality and detail of the construction was amazing. Their pastor, Bro. Martin Lopez, continues to return to Chamula to secretly witness to his family. Rejoice with this precious group of brethren over God's provision.

During this trip, I was able to help the brethren set up a recording studio to start recording music and messages to use on the radio. Fellow missionary Bro. Tom Sloan has set up a radio station in San Cristobal de las Casas, and has asked the brethren to provide programming in the Tzeltal, Tzotzil, and Tojolobal languages. We are excited about this new opportunity to spread the gospel in the state of Chiapas.



A crowd gathers as we prepare for the ribbon cutting ceremony at the new pink church building in Limares. The older building is the green one on the left. More pictures on next page.

## Missionaries to Latin America



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The Limares church dedication was so well attended that almost as many people had to listen outside as these that were inside.

### **Opportunities in 2013**

As we look ahead, the opportunities are exciting. In April, I will be returning to Cuba to start the distribution of the 2,000 whole Spanish Bibles that are being printed. In July, I will be spending several weeks in Venezuela to help the brethren there set up a studio to record and edit TV programs. God has opened the door for the Bible Baptist Church in Caracas to have a national TV program. I will also preach a Bible Conference. I will be returning to Mexico, but it will be for a shorter time this summer.

### **Family News**

We are grandparents! Our daughter, Karen, and son-in-law, Jody Griffin, welcomed Kendall Nicole Griffin into the family on December 11, 2011. She is the first of a new generation on both sides of the family. Needless to say, we are overjoyed! Provi is enjoying the role of being a grandmother and we are thinking about having to child-proof our house.

It has been a long time since Provi and I have had the chance to take an extended vacation. Through the generosity of our home church,



Two proud grandmothers hold Kendall for the first time



Standing on the Mount of Olives overlooking the Temple Mount

we were able to make our first ever trip to Israel. For two weeks, we visited the places that we have studied and read about all of our lives. I was able to take over a thousand pictures and video of the Bible lands. The trip will allow us to teach and explain the Bible much better and with a deeper under-

standing.

We also were able to spend several days in London and Berlin. As soon as we got back to the U.S., we jumped back into our tasks of preaching and teaching. God is good in his provision.