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## THANKS FOR PRAYING FOR BOLIVIA

“Who has measured the waters in the hollow of His hand, and marked off the heavens by the span, and calculated the dust of the earth by the measure, and weighed the mountains in a balance, and the hills in a pair of scales? Who has directed the Spirit of the Lord, or as His counselor has informed Him? With whom did He consult and who gave Him understanding? Behold, the nations are like a drop from a bucket, and are regarded as a speck of dust on the scales; Behold, He lifts up the islands like fine dust. Even Lebanon is not enough to burn, nor its beasts enough for a burnt offering. All the nations are as nothing before Him. They are regarded by Him as less than nothing and meaningless. To whom then will you liken God? Or what likeness will you compare with Him? As for the idol, a craftsman casts it, a goldsmith plates it with gold, and a silversmith fashions chains of silver. He who is too impoverished for such an offering selects a tree that does not rot; He seeks out for himself a skillful craftsman to prepare an idol that will not totter. Do you not know? Have you not heard? Has it not been declared to you from the beginning? Have you not understood from the foundation of the earth?”  
Isaiah 40: 12-21 (NASB)

Dear Friends in Christ,

Many of you have heard of the political unrest here in Bolivia and the many uncertainties that continue to hang in the balance for the future of this country, and you have been praying faithfully. We want to thank you very much for your prayers. We know that the only hope for Bolivia or any other nation is to trust in the Lord Who created the heavens and the earth and to turn from their wicked and idolatrous ways and ask His forgiveness so that He might show mercy and heal the land. We only desire to make you aware of the dire straights which we believe this country is in so that you will be more and more inclined and encouraged to pray for God’s peace to rule in the hearts of many through faith in Jesus Christ alone.

It is the season of Carnival here, and the depth of the darkness becomes even more evident during this time. This is a country steeped in idolatry of every form that could possibly grip the imagination, but here it is not imaginary. It is a reality. Many people do know what they are doing, but many do not and are only following the traditions of their ancestors. The false gods of the Andean religion have been assimilated with the false gods of the Roman Catholic religion in the form of virgin idols in every village and the continued worship of the Andean false gods of the upper world, this world, and the under-world. Devil and demon worship are receiving the worship and praise from men who have been deceived, and who need to know the True God of the Bible and understand His Holy Word as contained in the Scriptures so that they can give the One True God the glory that is due to Him and to Him alone.

We thank all of you for all the emails and the cards and remembrances in many ways which you sent to us during the Christmas season. You really encouraged us and brightened our days and put smiles on our faces. We are doing fine as we continue to study Spanish and Quechua. Rosie is studying Spanish every day with Tina, and Earl is studying every day in Quechua with several Quechua professors. We do all of our language study with a tutor, one-on-one.

Yesterday, February 18th, Carla turned sixteen years old, and we had a wonderful weekend of celebration for her life. She has a wonderful smile, and is a great joy to us. We thank all of you for praying for her so that she will always have the knowledge of the Lord's abiding Presence with her and the continual desire to please and obey Him in all things.

We always give thanks to the Lord for you. You are part of this great work that the Lord has given us all to do in making His Name known among the nations. He is GREAT! He is ABLE! He is FAITHFUL! He is GOOD! He is MERCIFUL! He is JUST! And, for every believer, He is OURS FOREVER! What more could we desire?

We pray that the Lord will be your blessing and your portion forever, and we thank Him for your partnership with us in the Gospel through your prayers, support, and friendship.

In Christ Jesus,

Earl, Rosie, and Carla

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