



The Prince Family Missionaries to Uruguay

Dear Pastor and Praying Church,

March-April 2020

Greetings from Salto, Uruguay, South America. What a change of events from our last prayer letter in February to this one. I know that churches and ministries all over the world have been affected by this COVID-19 pandemic.

Here in Salto, where we live, the government here has asked for people to stay inside. Schools are closed, many businesses and restaurants are shut down. They have shut down the only mall here in town which also serves as the main bus terminal here in town; only the grocery store and pharmacy at the mall are still open with only a couple of buses coming and going throughout the day. Even with many businesses closed around us, we are thankful we can still get the essentials that we need and there have been no shortages.

Right before all of this took place, we had just finished our building project. We had made flyers and passed them out several blocks all around the church and talked with several people. Little did we know that that weekend would turn out to be the same weekend that COVID-19 would first arrive here in Uruguay, and actually our town had two of the first four initial cases here in Uruguay. This happened on Friday, March 13, which sent some people into a panic here in town. I went to grocery store that late afternoon not hearing what had happened, I was in for a shock. There were seven lanes of cash registers opened which had 15-20 people in each one with most people having their carts overflowing with food and other essentials. This is abnormal for them because most people here usually only shop for one or two days. There were also talks that weekend of closing Salto down for two weeks where no one could leave or come in to Salto. This never happened praise the Lord.

Our pastor, in the States, encouraged us to go ahead and still have our first service on March 15, which we did. We did not have anyone show up, but we were there in case someone did come. We did this a second week as well with the same results. As of right now, we are at a standstill to comply with the governments recommendations. Here, for the most part, people are staying in their homes and not getting out. As of April 8, I have heard that there are 9 new cases of COVID-19 in our town of 100,000, with a total of 456 total cases in Uruguay.

I want to say thank you for your prayers and financial support. Thank you for all those who gave to our building project! Your sacrificial, generous offerings and giving to the Lord really blessed us and the future of our ministry here. Here is some pictures of the finished work. I know this is a difficult time for most churches as they adapt to doing things a different way. I want to let you know we are praying for you! Through this we can know that God is still on the Throne and is control and has a reason and purpose for what is going on. We pray God will have His perfect will and people will come to Him through this pandemic. God bless you!

Serving in Uruguay,

Joshua Prince

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