

Today is a day of remembrance-remembering all God did to unite us together as husband and wife three years ago! Thank you Lord for all You did and all You are doing!

God continues to do great things among us and we remain excited about being able to join with Him. We just returned from an exploratory trip to a city in the interior of Colombia called Manizales (pronounced; Mah-knee-sawles). More than 2 years ago God placed this city on Nelson's heart and we were both unsure why! Neither of us knew the city nor had contacts there. So we just continued to pray and wonder. Now we know why!

God began putting the pieces together bringing people into our lives from Manizales and showing us how He is working there. During our visit this weekend we learned so much about the city and God confirmed that this is our next place of service. Upon our return from the USA we will make our move to Manizales, 4 1/2 hours from Medellín, to serve the churches as together we seek for and ask God to do great things in this city.

We look forward to sharing more with you about the needs in this city, but we can honestly say that this city has some of the greatest needs of any Colombian city we know. Here are a few facts;

- There is one church for every 10,000 people in the city. (Population-450,000 aprx. 45 churches)
- Less than 1% of the city is evangelical believers. (that translates to about 4,000 believers)
- Of those 4,000, many are not living the Christian life
- Few churches are evangelizing and discipling children.
- Few churches are evangelizing and discipling their communities.

The need is urgent and we are responding to what God began doing in Nelson's heart over 2 years ago. We have already begun to pray, asking God to bring together a team in the USA who will join us, stateside and even through future visits, in serving with the churches in Manizales. November 17th we will arrive in the USA and will soon after begin sharing with those who are interested in knowing more about Maniales.

We will also be having a wedding celebration in the USA as there were too many "empty seats" three years ago at our wedding in Costa Rica. We both long to celebrate with dear friends in the USA. We hope you will be able to join us. More details to follow!

Please pray with us now, during these last three months before leaving for the USA:

1. Pray for the two small groups Nelson will be leading on Friday nights and Saturday afternoons. They will be going through our church planter training called Sembradores (Planters). All are serious about planting churches, some here in Medellin and some just 2 hours from Manizales!
2. Pray for Nelson and Vikki as we begin the last module of the Pastoral Ministry to Children course this Saturday; Eight more weeks with these dear students and 8 more weeks to continue training the assistants who will then continue teaching the classes upon our departure.
3. Pray for Vikki as she teaches the course, Women serving with Purpose in the Biblical Seminary of Colombia. Ask God to use these classes to prepare women who will shepherd the hearts of many women toward a deeper relationship with and freedom in Christ.
4. PRAISE with us for the three years of marriage that have indeed made us more like Christ and more committed to His purposes for us as a couple and as a ministry team.

Your ministry to us through prayer, support and friendship are tremendous and precious gifts! We appreciate you and are looking forward to spending some time with you in the coming months!

With our Eyes Fixed on Him,
Vikki and Nelson

Seeking to Know, Love and Glorify Him,
Vikki de los Santos de Maya