# "파라과이여, 다시 태어나라"(Paraguay must be born again)(요 3:7)

Esperanza del Paraguay ("파라과이의 희망")

파라과이 선교 2 차 5 개년 계획 표어

"한 알의 밀이 땅에 떨어져 죽지 아니하면 한 알 그대로 있거니와 죽으면 많은 열매를 맺느니라" (요 12:24) 2020 년 "보라 내가 새 일을 행하리니 이제 나타낼 것이라 (사 43:19)

## **Dear Officers and Supporters of JSBMF**

#### Hallelujah!

Greetings to the JSBMF family in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. We trust that your faith and your ministry is only being strengthened as a result of this COVID-19 virus. It certainly has placed a large distance between everyone due to social distancing, but we know nothing can divide our hearts which have been united with the Lord in spirit.

Here in Paraguay, the month of June marks the beginning of winter. It worries us to know that the virus is more likely to spread with the colder weather and that our neighboring countries, Argentina and Brazil, have been recently hit hard with a record high number of new cases. We are taking precautions, but we prayerfully press on knowing no virus will trouble us for "we bear the marks of Jesus on my body" (Galatians 6:17).

### ★ Sharing love on Mother's Day with handmade flowers and gifts



May 15 was Mother's Day in Paraguay. Around 10 people gathered to make paper carnation flowers and shared a meal together. Last year we had over 15 youth children. As it is in the US, we are not allowed to have large gatherings, so sadly we could not invite more people this year. We then visited every home to bless and thank the mothers with the flowers and gifts we prepared.

The young Paraguayan couple sitting in front of me in the picture are serving our church as education pastors. They previously helped cook for the food distribution and even now they are a huge help as we prepare to give out basic essential care packages to the church members.

#### ★ Repairing the church building

I am able to spend a lot of quality time with the Lord now due to more downtime and can focus on learning Spanish more diligently. Additionally, my free time is often spent on fixing and repairing the church building. It is one of the many little things I get to enjoy, and it surely is a huge blessing that I am able to pick up new skills now that I'm serving as a missionary. Hallelujah!



### ★ Preparing to serve free meals

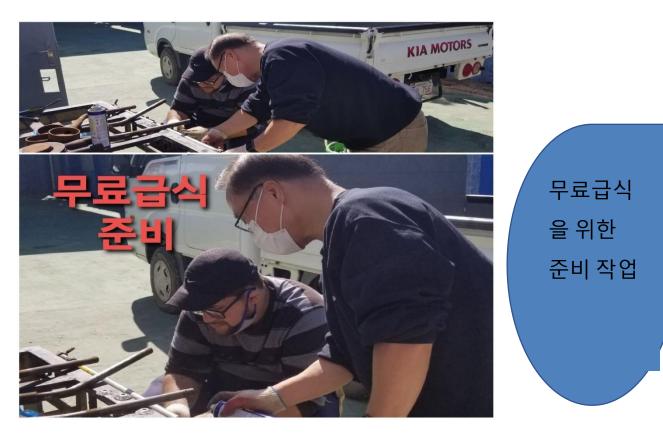
Through the Hope Academy program that started back in January, we learned the children here are very weak and do not get enough nutrients. Since then, it has been our hope and prayer that our new church building would be used to serve free meals and help restore the health conditions of the children. Unfortunately, our plan had to be put on hold due to COVID-19.

As soon as the virus started spreading, the government completely shut down all the schools and extended online learning until the end of the school year. In many underprivileged communities, not too many students can access their class virtually and have to rely on offline

homework to continue their academic studies. What is even more problematic for them is they can no longer rely on free lunches they would normally get from school.

I was on my way to church the other day, and I was surprised to see many of the children from my church waiting in a long line with an empty bowl in their hands. Soon I realized they were waiting to get free food and it broke my heart. I recognized how ignorant I was, and immediately decided to start the new free meal program.

Starting this June, we will be serving free lunches at least 2-3 times a week. Additional support came in a very timely manner - one church sent a relief fund in April and another church sent more relief support in May. We will have to see how things go once the program is launched, but if we can, we would love to be able to expand this program to be on a daily basis.



This is our first time preparing free meals, and we are lacking experience and preparation. We bought used kitchenware and prepared slowly. But most importantly, we are praying for the Holy Spirit to guide us through every step as we are preparing to serve these children.

The fund we received from Grace Community Chapel (led by Pastor Jae Park) in April was redistributed to a few other partnering organizations – a missionary in the Philippines who couldn't complete bathroom construction due to financial difficulty, Milal Missions serving the disabled community in Paraguay, and another rural church in need for more support.

Despite circumstances being much more difficult now, we are extremely thankful that we can stay healthy and strong enough to serve and that none of our church children have been infected.

"Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go." (Joshua 1:9)

We hold on to the promise that God will be with us to the end of the age, and we press on.

We know your workplaces and businesses are being severely affected in the U.S., and we express our sincere gratitude towards JSBMF families for your constant prayer and unwavering love. We pray for God's abundant blessing to be upon your church, your homes, and businesses, and that God will continue to keep you healthy and safe. Shalom!!!

Your missionaries in Paraguay,

Ok-Jin and David Nam

#### **PLEASE PRAY FOR**

### <Free Meal Program>

### Paraguay's second five-year plan prayer title (Until August 2023)

- 1. For church construction to begin again (target end of year 2020)
- 2. For the town of Bañado Sur to be receptive to the gospel, to overcome poverty, and to have zero illiterates
- 3. For the future of Hope Academy as we are praying for new leaders and teachers
- 4. For our plan of leveraging Taekwondo to disciple the entire youth in Paraguay
- 5. For Tres Dias to be used to disciple church leaders and members in Paraguay
- 6. For Hope Church to be used for saving lost souls
- 7. For the Holy Spirit to continue to fill us and dwell among us

## "Paraguay, Born Again!"

My Lord, my God. Please receive us and lead us! Amen.

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