

# Belinda Spilman

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## Uruguay

April 11, 2020

Dear Ones,

I started my last letter telling you about how hot it was out, and how quite the town was. Well, it is now cold out and the town is even quieter. We are living in very unique times. How is Uruguay in the middle of the pandemic? Right now, there are around 500 with covid 19 and 7 have passed away. This all started close to 4 weeks ago, so we are behind the States. Most things were put on hold since the beginning, the government becoming more and more strict as this continues.

So, where does this leave us? With many opportunities as we look to the Lord for direction. Seeing that most people are in quarantine it seemed a good time to start a Bible study with the ladies. I sent out the invitation to several churches and it spread from there. I am now teaching a series on "Truth that Brings Joy" from John 15:11. There are 42 ladies from 12 different churches involved (from Montevideo, the interior of Uruguay, as well as from Italy). Because of the number I have divided it into two different conference calls, morning and evening. The ladies love studying the Word and are encouraged to "be together". Pray with me that this would be a time of growth for God's people.

Being "shut in" seemed to close the door to reach out to the lost. As we prayed the Lord began giving us ideas. We now have an outreach through Whatsapp and Facebook. My coworker Tim is recording 3 minute Evangelistic messages from Psalm 23. We add a cover page and send them out. I have also made some cards with that same cover page to hand out here in town inviting people to listen to them. So far with Eugenia and Nancy's help we have handed out around 80. Monte Hebron Church, where I attend on Sundays, is looking into the possibility of making face mask to hand out with Evangelistic material and information about the church. Pray with us for creative ideas to reach the lost as the quarantine seems to stretch out.

People are afraid and confused, without hope. Uruguay has one of the highest percentages of depression and suicide in South America. Being shut in is not helping! Pray with us that God will use these efforts, plus what other churches are doing to give hope and salvation.

We are thankful for the internet. What a blessing to be able to keep close contact with different folks, believers and unbelievers. I continue with my teaching/training class with the ladies from Monte Hebron Church. They in turn are reaching out to folks they know with what they have learned. I have also been able to start a study with the ladies from San Ramon church. As well as do some counseling with another lady. God has been good to allow all of this, and we look forward to any other "creative ideas" He would give.

Thank you for praying. I am doing fine. Healthwise I am doing great. In a world of chaos, how good to know in whom we have believed; the all-powerful, all-knowing, sovereign God. The God who is Good. Isn't that a wonderful thought? The God who controls all things is Good - working ALL things to His Glory and our Good!

I know that you too are in the midst of all of this. May God assure your heart of this Hope. And in doing so, use you as Salt and Light to those around you.

Praying and Serving Together,

Belinda