

# Belinda Spilman

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## URUGUAY

Sept. 12, 2022

Dear Ones,

Thank you so much for your prayers over the last couple of months. The Lord has been good. There have been several answers to prayers and lots of extras, things I never imagined. You have prayed. How good that you can rejoice in the answers.

The kids' Bible club has continued to go well. Some of the kids have stopped coming in part due to the cold Winter months, but a good group continues to come. We have continued in my house but Lord willing we hope to go back to the plaza soon. As I mentioned in my last letter it is more difficult to teach the class there but is helpful in several ways: there is more room for games, more exposure with the town folks and since we are there as school gets out there are usually more kids. Please continue to pray for the kids and their families.

We finished the ladies' internet class on the book of James. I continue to pray for myself and the ladies as we seek to apply these truths to our lives. I am very thankful for the Lord's grace in each of the ladies. Several of them asked when we would start the next study. How precious it is to see folks with desire to study the Word. I had to tell them that I needed to stop for a while because of other things that I needed to prepare. Lord willing, in the next few months we will be able to start another study. Remember APTAS (Ladies Able to Serve), the ministry that I have told you about. This is part of that ministry. The goal is to help train ladies in different ways to enable them to serve in their own churches. I am very thankful to be a small part.

Thank you for praying for Katherine, the young lady from Costa Rica serving the Lord here in Uruguay. Remember, she has endometriosis and needed to travel to Mexico for an operation. The Lord provided for her needs in amazing ways: All of the money needed for the operation, plus extra needed for other expenses; her friend Laura to be able to travel with her; a Mexican couple opened their home for them to stay both before and after the operation; and most importantly a very successful operation. The doctors removed her uterus, one of her ovaries and part of the other one plus having to remove part of her intestine, due to a large cyst. A huge operation, but she is now free of the tumors caused by endometriosis (and the pain!!). Her recovery has been more rapid than the doctors had expected. She is in Costa Rica with her family, and within the next month she and Laura will return to Uruguay. The Lord is Faithful and Good. Thank you for praying.

Also, many of you have been praying for Karen from San Ramon. She started to come to church there, but soon had to stop because of her work schedule. I offered to study the Word with her at a different time. We are studying the Gospel of John via the internet. Karen has no knowledge of the Word but is very open. She is a young mom with two little girls. When we first met her, she told us that she had been operated on for liver cancer about 6 months before. She continues to be monitored for that. Pray for her and her husband. Their little girl, Kaity, is faithful in attending our Kids Bible Club there.

On July 7<sup>th</sup> Dora contacted me. Her friend Mariela gave her my number. I had a Bible study with Mariela about 3 or 4 years ago, and the Lord has done an amazing work of grace in her life. Dora was being treated for severe anxiety (pretty much the same thing Mariela was experiencing when I started studying the Word with her). We agreed to meet (via internet) the following Saturday for counseling. I had no idea of the adventure the Lord had planned. I wish I had the time and space here to give you more details on what the Lord has done. But, a week after that first meeting, we met again. She had read through the Gospel of John twice asking the Lord to give her Light. And He did! She had a clear understanding of the Gospel. She wouldn't be able to explain it in the terms we would use perhaps, but she understood. In that second meeting she told me how she had prayed and told God that she wanted to have her old life back, before all the anxiety started, then she stopped and said, "No, God, I did awful things, sinned against you. I want a new life!" Does that make you think of [2 Corinthians 5:17](#).

"Therefore if anyone is in Christ, *he is* a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come."

God has transformed her life! Her anxiety is gone. Instead of crying when we meet, there is joy! We continue to meet weekly for discipleship and to study John together. Praise Him with me for the amazing, saving Grace of our Good God!

This is getting long. But before I stop, I would like to ask for your prayers for a couple more things. Anna is a lady that came to know the Lord many years ago, she has grown and desires to serve Him in any way she can. She is in her late 40's and recently "retired" from the military. She gets some income from that but will need to get some type of employment to supplement it. Anna has been coming to San Jacinto to help with the kids' Bible club. But now that she has more time, she is seeking the Lord to know what more she can do. It is precious to see what God is doing in her and through her. Pray with us for God's clear direction in her life.

And the last thing I'd like to ask you to pray for is a ladies' retreat where I will be teaching 6 different sessions on Psalm 103. The dates for that are Sept. 21 to the 24. They are expecting around 40 ladies.

Thank you so much for being a part of what God is doing in Uruguay.

Serving together,

Belinda