

Windler update

August 1, 2024

...and because he was of the same trade he stayed with them and worked, for they were tentmakers by trade.

Acts 18:3^{ESV}

Last month, we shared about the team that came from Grace Community Church of Spofford, New Hampshire. While they were here, our native brothers were able to learn how to lay bricks side by side for our walls, along with a number of other techniques and lessons on construction. After the team left, we realized how important the training was, and we developed a whole discipleship plan to equip four native brothers in construction.

As we see in the verse, even Paul had need of working his trade at times, just to sustain himself or to make inroads with those around him. Likewise, our Paĩ friends are in the same boat; their churches are in such poverty, and there is little hope of them supporting their own outreach for the foreseeable future. The answer to the problem at this time seems to be "tentmaking". In other words, they need a trade to support themselves and their families if they have any hope of reaching the other 50 plus Paĩ communities in our region. Everywhere we go, people are begging to have someone build a small home or a shed.

With these skills, these men will be able to support their families or even work and give to another's needs so that they can go in their place and take the gospel to their people in another unreached community. We were excited to hear this testimony from one of the men being trained. "I have attempted to do this kind of work in the past, but without experience, the other workers don't want us to do any of the work. Two examples are laying brick or squaring the house; they fear we will mess things up and make their work take longer. We are so thankful for the chance you have given us here, to not only watch and learn but to do hands-on practice. Thank you for this opportunity."

Praise the Lord, we are excited to see how the Lord will use this training in the future to further His kingdom.

Additional notes and updates

Barb and Briana are coming in on a flight this evening. They are excited about meeting our new grandson, and we all are looking forward to having Barb's father,

Dean Goddard, return to Paraguay to be closer to most of the family in his retirement. He will arrive at the end of August. Josiah continues to serve at the Christian school here in Paraguay, teaching 7th, 8th, and 9th grade Bible as well as helping out on maintenance at the school.

Praise and Prayer

1) Praise the Lord for Keilah's safe delivery of our Grandson Waylon. Thank you all for praying. The baby came quite unexpectedly quick, but praise the Lord, Keilah's mother, Kathy Bruce, an experienced missionary from Ecuador, was able to deliver her grandson and fill in until the midwives arrived.

2) Praise the Lord for the continued progress being made on the work site. Praise the Lord for the encouragement the project has been to the men who are studying construction.

3) Please pray for us to have wisdom as we teach the men and bring in other professionals as needed to spearhead the training.

4) Praise the Lord for all Barb and Briana were able to accomplish while in the states. Barb's father is much more prepared to make the move back to Paraguay since they were able to significantly downsize Dean's home.

5) Pray for Briana as she does Bible school full-time online starting this month. She hopes to finish her final year next year in person.

Thank you all for your patience in standing with us in prayer and financial support for the ongoing ministry with the Paĩ people and the Paraguayan Nationals.